MARVEL MYSTERY COMICS

10¢

JULY NO. 74

A Slimmer Lovelier YOU In Just 30 Days!

LOSE 8 to 10 lbs. in one month

No exercise — not a laxative

Just follow the simple scientific directions of Dr. Phillips Reducing Plan! In just 30 days look in the mirror and see the amazing difference!

GIVEN WITH ORDER:

With your order you are given a 30 day supply of KELPIDINE (fucus) for use as part of your breakfast. There is **medical authority** that KELPIDINE (fucus) has been used as an anti-fat and as an aid to reducing.

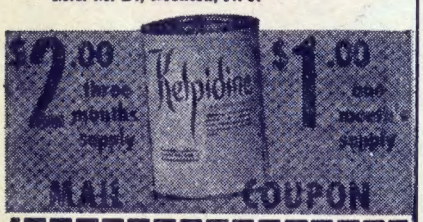
SATISFIED USERS SAY:

"I lost 15 lbs. in a few weeks!"
Mrs. J. P., Jacksonville, Florida.

"I lost 18½ lbs., feel young and work better."
Mrs. K. Y., Bronx, N. Y.

"I went from a size 20 dress to a size 15."
Mrs. N. C., Perth Amboy, N. J.

"Send the $2.00 size, I lost 15 pounds already."
Mrs. M. D., Boonton, N. J.



AMERICAN HEALTHAIDS CO., DEPT. CM-2
871 Broad St., Newark, N. J.

Please send in plain wrapper a supply of KELPIDINE and Dr. Phillips Reducing Plan. My money will be refunded if I am not satisfied.

☐ I enclose $2.00, send 3 months' supply postage prepaid.

☐ I enclose $1.00, send one month's supply postage prepaid.

Name.....

Address.....

City.....Zone.....State.....

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

ARE YOU HAVING A HEARTACHE

while others are having fun

because skin eruptions, pimples, blackheads or acne, externally caused, spoil your looks?

Why lose out on dates all the time? Perhaps you wouldn't if you took this externally caused pimple, blackhead and skin blemish problem seriously! Thousands of happy boys and girls have already cleared their externally caused skin blemishes the SENSATIONALLY SUCCESSFUL **VITE** way! So start now on the road to a skin boys admire and girls dream about!

VITE is so astonishing in its results, so quick in clearing up externally caused skin eruptions, pimples, blackheads, or acne, that you'll be amazed. Many users often find a clearer, softer, lovelier, smooth skin **overnight!**

The evidence is so convincing that the makers of VITE offer you **your money back** if you are not 100% satisfied.

VITE is not an ointment or salve. It is made of 100% pure vegetable oils. VITE is a skin cream used on the famous VITE SKIN BEAUTY PLAN, prepared by a recognized practicing physician. That's AMAZING! How can anyone put up with skin blemishes another day after hearing that? Send today for a trial size VITE and the doctor's VITE SKIN BEAUTY PLAN. If you are not happily surprised with the improvement in your skin, return package for a full refund. Mail coupon now!

MAIL THIS SPECIAL OFFER COUPON TODAY!

AMERICAN SKIN LABORATORY DEPT. CM-2
871 Broad St., Newark, N. J.

Send me a jar of VITE face cream and the doctor's "VITE SKIN BEAUTY PLAN." My money will be refunded if I am not satisfied.

☐ I enclose $2.00—send the large economy size postage prepaid.

☐ I enclose $1.00—send the trial size postage prepaid.

Name.....

Address.....

City .....Zone.....State.....

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

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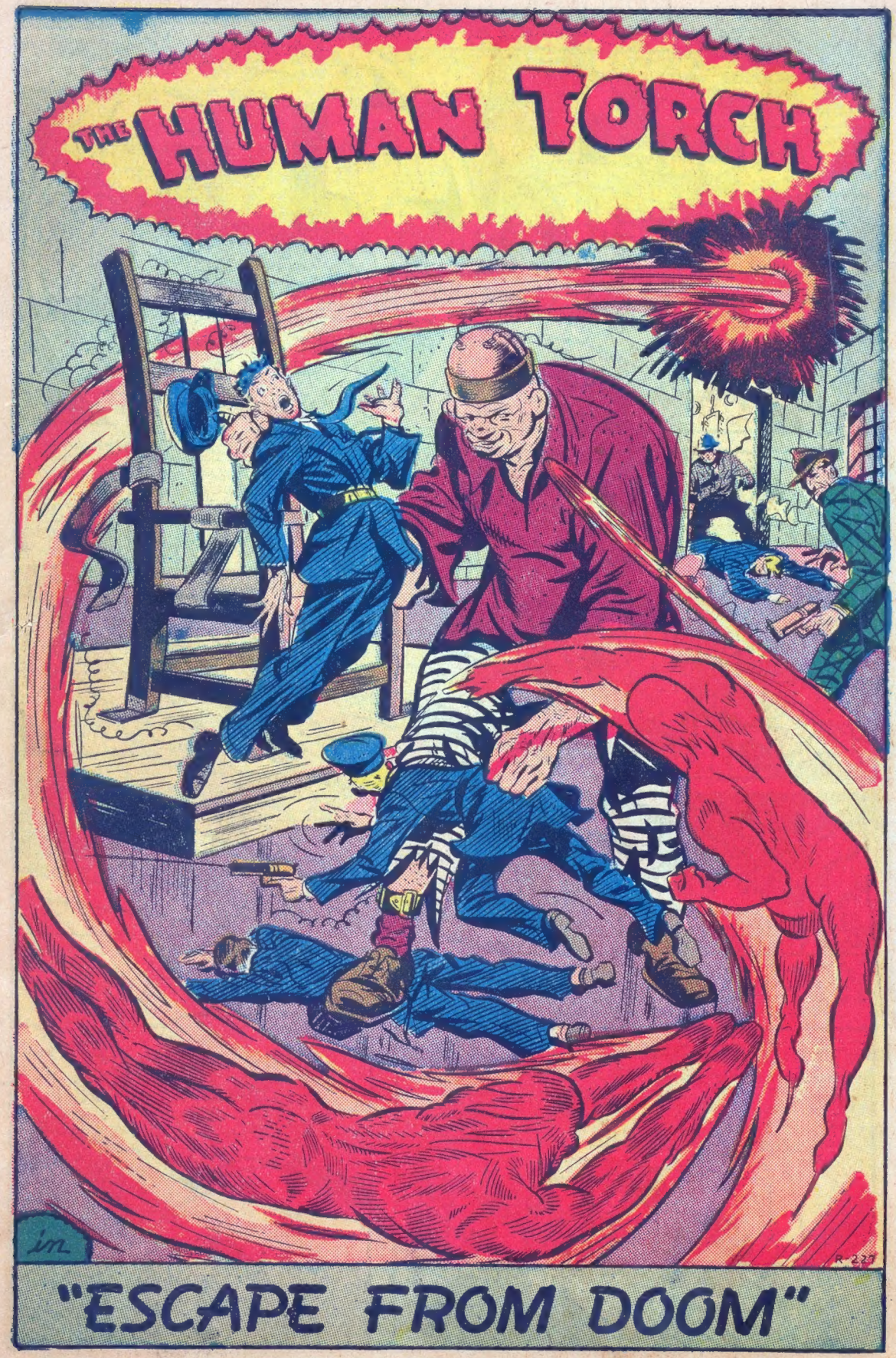
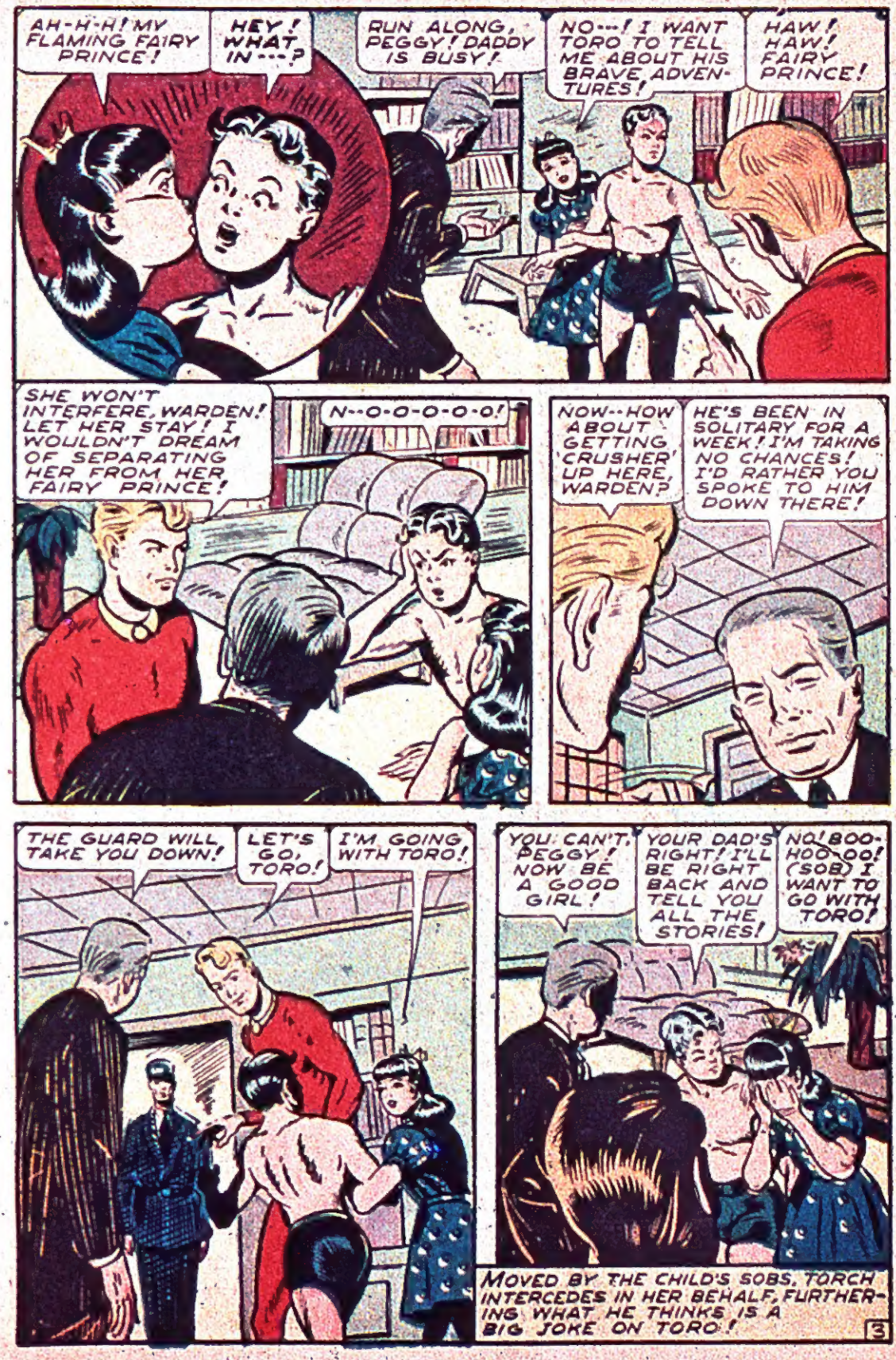
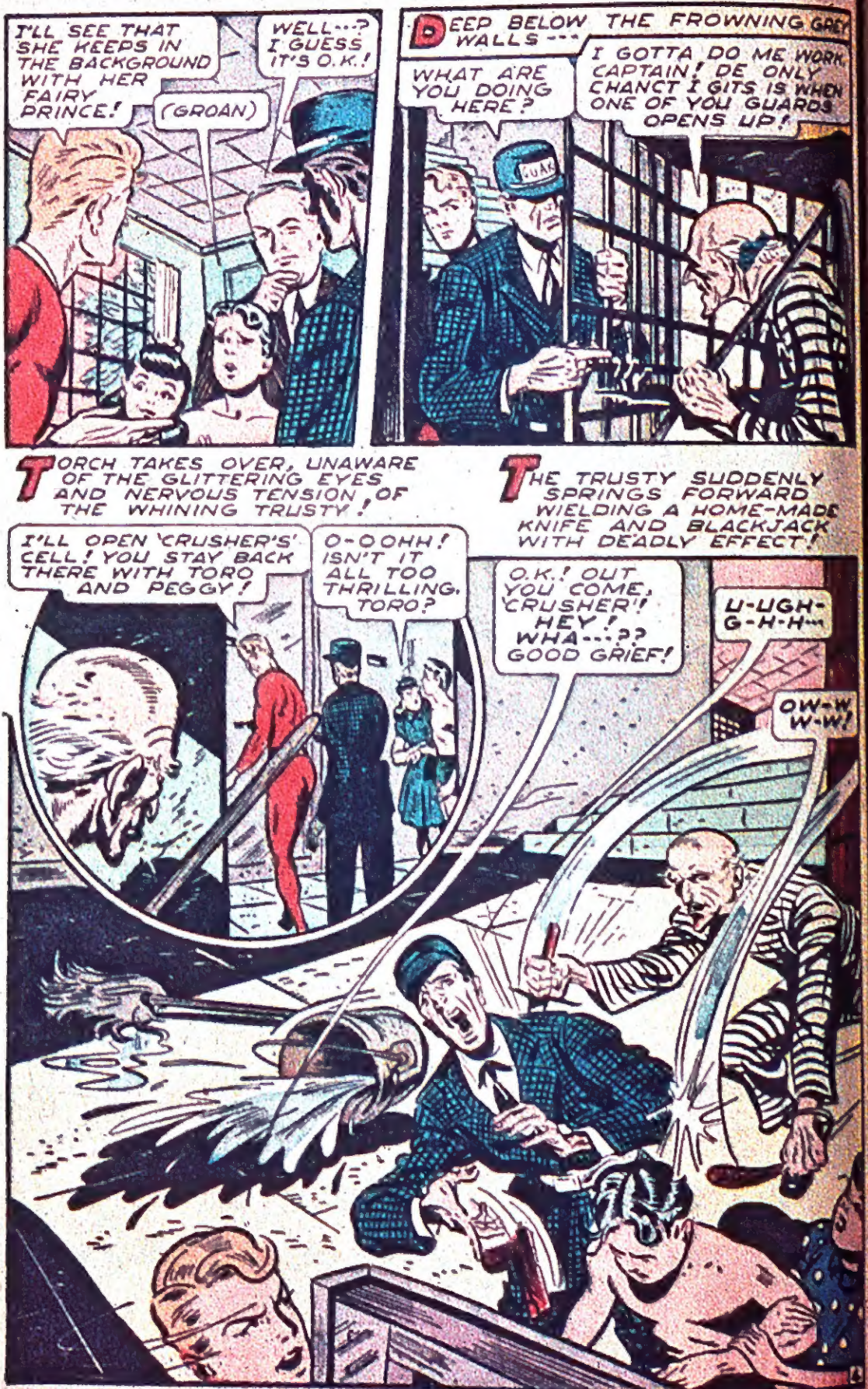
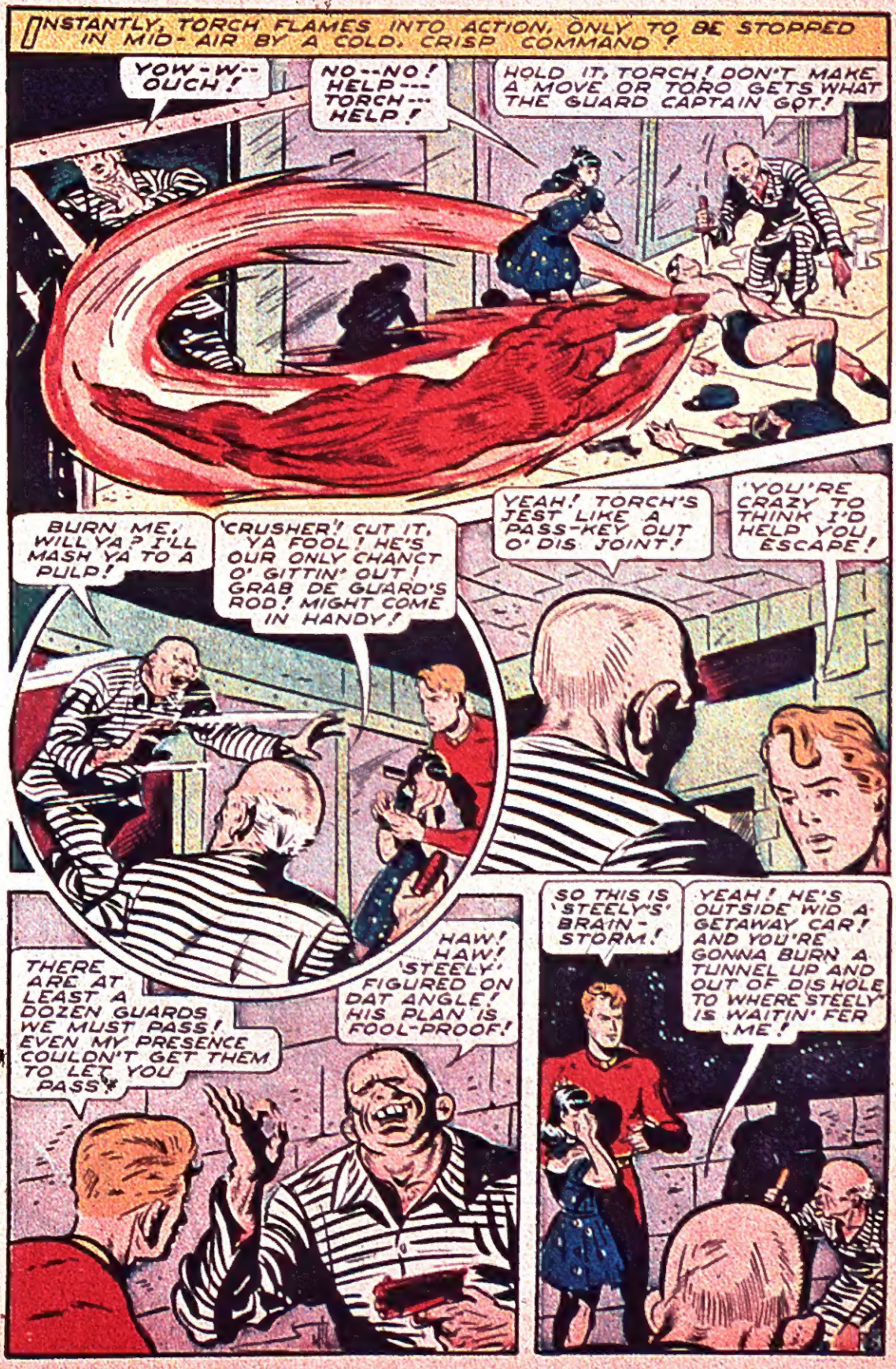
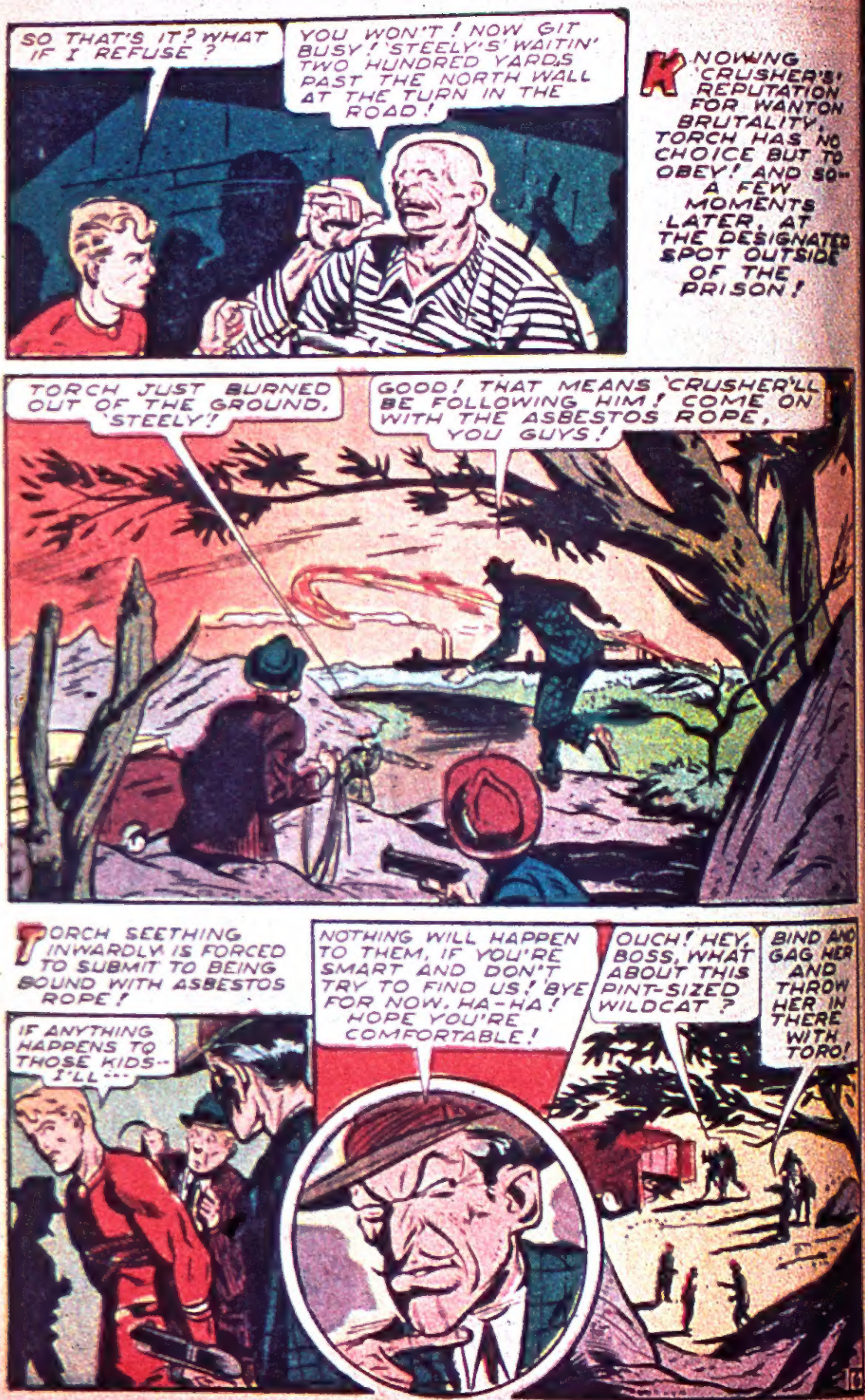

THE HUMAN TORCH
"ESCAPE FROM DOOM"

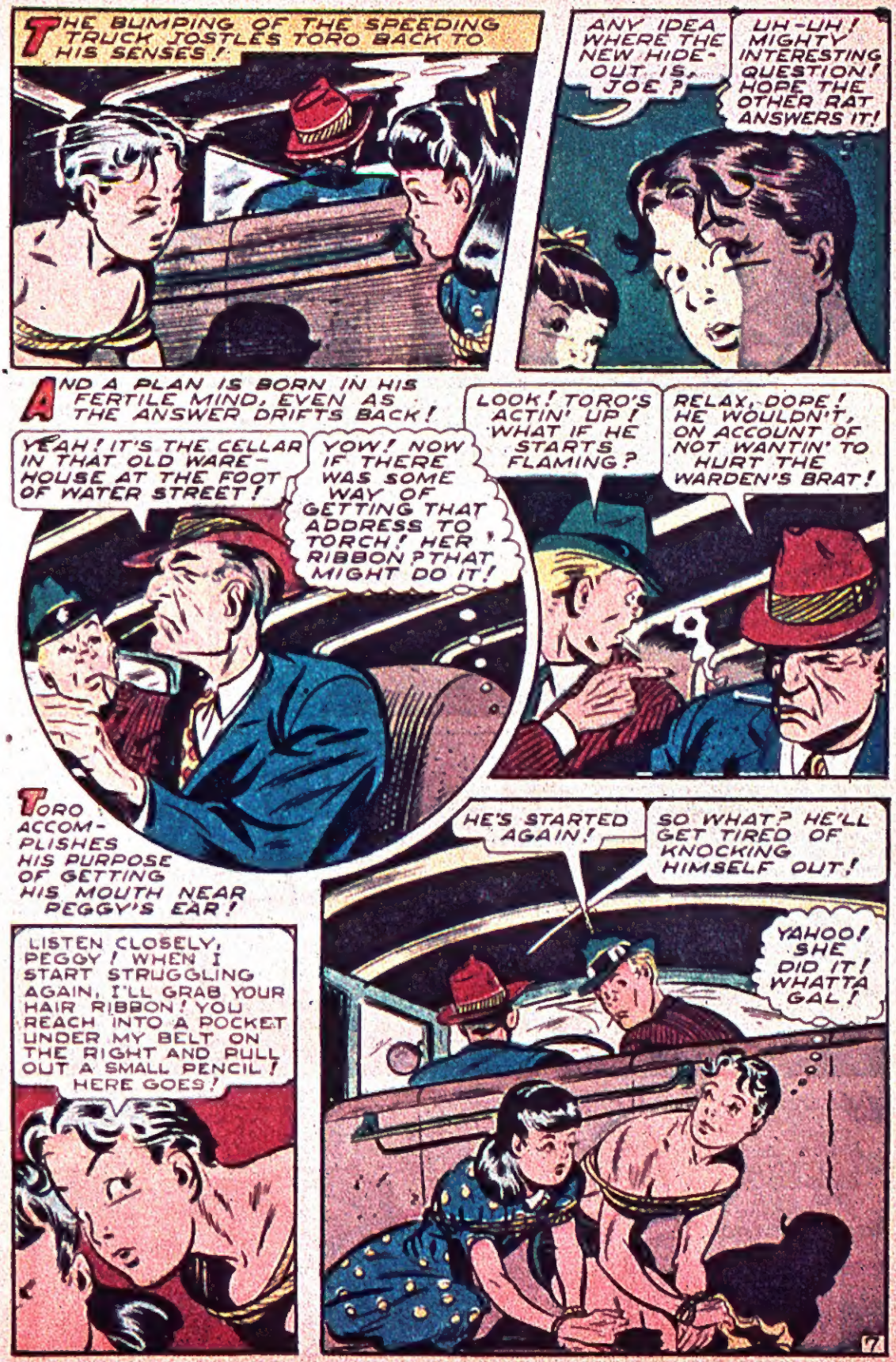
MID-AFTERNOON---IN TORCH'S APARTMENT!
(SIGH) WHEN HE DIES, OUR CHANCE OF NABBING 'STEELY', DIES WITH HIM!
PHONE, TORCH! I'LL GET IT!
'CRUSHER' DIES IN CHAIR TONIGHT
CRIME PARTNER OF NOTORIOUS KILLER, 'STEELY' THOMAS WHO IS STILL AT LARGE IS DENIED STAY!
IT'S THE WARDEN! SAYS 'CRUSHER' IS READY TO TALK!
WHAT??? HERE--- I'LL TALK TO HIM!
HE'S READY TO SING! BUT HE'LL ONLY TALK TO YOU!
WOW! THIS IS THE 'BREAK' I'VE BEEN HOPING FOR! WE'LL BE RIGHT UP!
I'D IMAGINE YOU'D BE THE LAST PERSON 'CRUSHER' WOULD TELL, YOU BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS CAPTURE! WONDER WHY--?
I DON'T KNOW! ALL I'M INTERESTED IN, IS GETTING 'STEELY'!
AT THE PRISON, THE WARDEN'S DAUGHTER SCREAMS IN EXCITED ANTICIPATION OF MEETING THE TWO FAMOUS HEROES!
IT'S THEM, DADDY! JUST LIKE THE FLAMING KNIGHTS IN MY STORY BOOK!
MY DAUGHTER, PEGGY, TORCH!
HELLO, PEGGY! I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET TORO!
(SIGH)


AH-H-H! MY FLAMING FAIRY PRINCE!
HEY! WHAT IN---?
RUN ALONG, PEGGY! DADDY IS BUSY!
NO---! I WANT TORO TO TELL ME ABOUT HIS BRAVE ADVENTURES!
HAW! HAW! FAIRY PRINCE!
SHE WON'T INTERFERE, WARDEN! LET HER STAY! I WOULDN'T DREAM OF SEPARATING HER FROM HER FAIRY PRINCE!
N--O-O-O-O-O-O!
NOW--HOW ABOUT GETTING 'CRUSHER' UP HERE, WARDEN?
HE'S BEEN IN SOLITARY FOR A WEEK! I'M TAKING NO CHANCES! I'D RATHER YOU SPOKE TO HIM DOWN THERE!
THE GUARD WILL TAKE YOU DOWN!
LET'S GO, TORO!
I'M GOING WITH TORO!
YOU CAN'T, PEGGY! NOW BE A GOOD GIRL!
YOUR DAD'S RIGHT! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK AND TELL YOU ALL THE STORIES!
NO! BOO-HOO-OO! (SOB) I WANT TO GO WITH TORO!
MOVED BY THE CHILD'S SOBS, TORCH INTERCEDES IN HER BEHALF, FURTHERING WHAT HE THINKS IS A BIG JOKE ON TORO!
3


I'LL SEE THAT SHE KEEPS IN THE BACKGROUND WITH HER FAIRY PRINCE!
(GROAN)
WELL...? I GUESS IT'S O.K.!
DEEP BELOW THE FROWNING GREY WALLS ---
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I GOTTA DO ME WORK CAPTAIN! DE ONLY CHANCT I GITS IS WHEN ONE OF YOU GUARDS OPENS UP!
TORCH TAKES OVER, UNAWARE OF THE GLITTERING EYES AND NERVOUS TENSION OF THE WHINING TRUSTY!
THE TRUSTY SUDDENLY SPRINGS FORWARD WIELDING A HOME-MADE KNIFE AND BLACKJACK WITH DEADLY EFFECT!
I'LL OPEN 'CRUSHER'S' CELL! YOU STAY BACK THERE WITH TORO AND PEGGY!
O-OOHH! ISN'T IT ALL TOO THRILLING, TORO?
O.K.! OUT YOU COME, 'CRUSHER'! HEY! WHA...?? GOOD GRIEF!
U-UGH-G-H-H...
OW-W W-W!


INSTANTLY, TORCH FLAMES INTO ACTION, ONLY TO BE STOPPED IN MID-AIR BY A COLD, CRISP COMMAND!
YOW-W--OUCH!
NO--NO! HELP--- TORCH--- HELP!
HOLD IT, TORCH! DON'T MAKE A MOVE OR TORO GETS WHAT THE GUARD CAPTAIN GOT!
BURN ME, WILL YA? I'LL MASH YA TO A PULP!
'CRUSHER'! CUT IT, YA FOOL! HE'S OUR ONLY CHANCT O' GITTIN' OUT! GRAB DE GUARD'S ROD! MIGHT COME IN HANDY!
YEAH! TORCH'S JEST LIKE A PASS-KEY OUT O' DIS JOINT!
'YOU'RE CRAZY TO THINK I'D HELP YOU ESCAPE!
THERE ARE AT LEAST A DOZEN GUARDS WE MUST PASS! EVEN MY PRESENCE COULDN'T GET THEM TO LET YOU PASS!
HAW! HAW! 'STEELY' FIGURED ON DAT ANGLE! HIS PLAN IS FOOL-PROOF!
SO THIS IS 'STEELY'S' BRAIN-STORM!
YEAH! HE'S OUTSIDE WID A GETAWAY CAR! AND YOU'RE GONNA BURN A TUNNEL UP AND OUT OF DIS HOLE TO WHERE STEELY' IS WAITIN' FER ME!


SO THAT'S IT? WHAT IF I REFUSE?
YOU WON'T! NOW GIT BUSY! 'STEELY'S' WAITIN' TWO HUNDRED YARDS PAST THE NORTH WALL AT THE TURN IN THE ROAD!
KNOWING 'CRUSHER'S' REPUTATION FOR WANTON BRUTALITY, TORCH HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO OBEY! AND SO— A FEW MOMENTS LATER, AT THE DESIGNATED SPOT OUTSIDE OF THE PRISON!
TORCH JUST BURNED OUT OF THE GROUND, 'STEELY'!
GOOD! THAT MEANS 'CRUSHER'LL BE FOLLOWING HIM! COME ON WITH THE ASBESTOS ROPE, YOU GUYS!
TORCH SEETHING INWARDLY IS FORCED TO SUBMIT TO BEING BOUND WITH ASBESTOS ROPE!
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO THOSE KIDS— I'LL—
NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO THEM, IF YOU'RE SMART AND DON'T TRY TO FIND US! BYE FOR NOW, HA-HA! HOPE YOU'RE COMFORTABLE!
OUCH! HEY, BOSS, WHAT ABOUT THIS PINT-SIZED WILDCAT?
BIND AND GAG HER AND THROW HER IN THERE WITH TORO!


THE BUMPING OF THE SPEEDING TRUCK JOSTLES TORO BACK TO HIS SENSES!
ANY IDEA WHERE THE NEW HIDE-OUT IS, JOE?
UH-UH! MIGHTY INTERESTING QUESTION! HOPE THE OTHER RAT ANSWERS IT!
AND A PLAN IS BORN IN HIS FERTILE MIND, EVEN AS THE ANSWER DRIFTS BACK!
YEAH! IT'S THE CELLAR IN THAT OLD WARE-HOUSE AT THE FOOT OF WATER STREET!
YOW! NOW IF THERE WAS SOME WAY OF GETTING THAT ADDRESS TO TORCH! HER RIBBON? THAT MIGHT DO IT!
LOOK! TORO'S ACTIN' UP! WHAT IF HE STARTS FLAMING?
RELAX, DOPE! HE WOULDN'T, ON ACCOUNT OF NOT WANTIN' TO HURT THE WARDEN'S BRAT!
TORO ACCOMPLISHES HIS PURPOSE OF GETTING HIS MOUTH NEAR PEGGY'S EAR!
LISTEN CLOSELY, PEGGY! WHEN I START STRUGGLING AGAIN, I'LL GRAB YOUR HAIR RIBBON! YOU REACH INTO A POCKET UNDER MY BELT ON THE RIGHT AND PULL OUT A SMALL PENCIL! HERE GOES!
HE'S STARTED AGAIN!
SO WHAT? HE'LL GET TIRED OF KNOCKING HIMSELF OUT!
YAHOO! SHE DID IT! WHATTA GAL!

CRAMPED FINGERS STRAINING IN AGONY, SCRAWL A MESSAGE!

TORCH-WAREHOUSE CELLAR--FOOT OF WATER ST---

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE PRISON, A CONSCIENCE-STRICKEN TORCH HAS BEEN FOUND AND RELEASED FROM HIS ASBESTOS BONDS!

IT WAS MY FAULT! AND NOTHING I CAN DO!

I KNOW HOW HARD IT WAS FOR YOU TO MAKE THE DECISION! AND YOU-- DID-IT--TO-- SPARE--MY PEGGY!

RING!

NEW YORK POLICE HEADQUARTERS! A CHILD'S HAIR-RIBBON WITH A MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO YOU WAS FOUND NEAR THE DOCKS! THEY WANT YOU TO COME---! WHAT THE--? HE'S GONE!

IT'S FROM TORO! I KNOW IT!

MINUTES LATER!

I'LL THROW A CORDON AROUND THE WHOLE DISTRICT! WE'LL HAVE TORO AND THE GIRL FREE IN---!

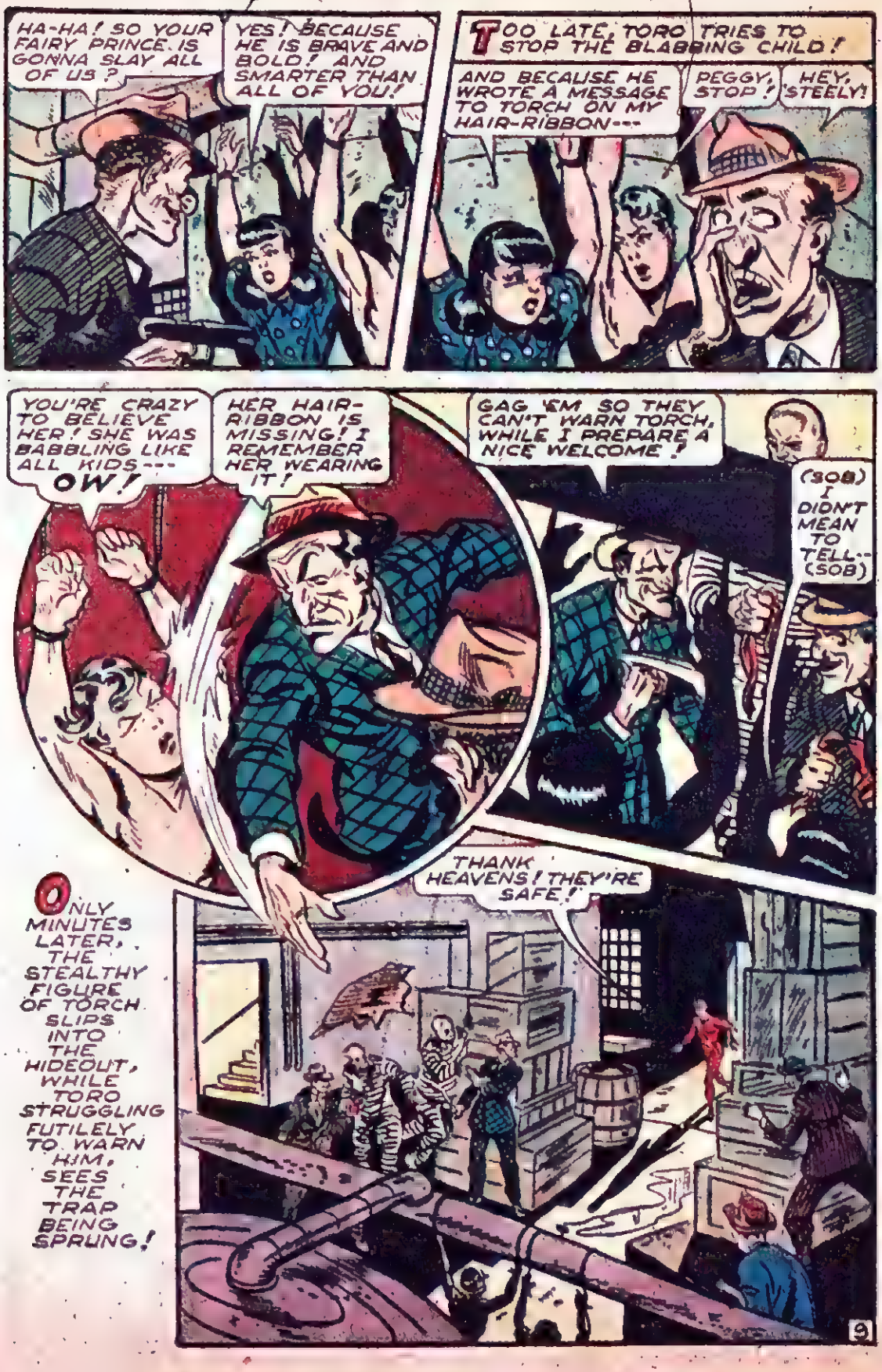
HOLD IT, INSPECTOR! IT WON'T WORK!

BEFORE YOUR MEN COULD FIGHT THEIR WAY IN, STEELY' COULD FINISH OFF THE YOUNGSTERS! I'LL HAVE TO CHANCE IT ALONE! SO LONG!

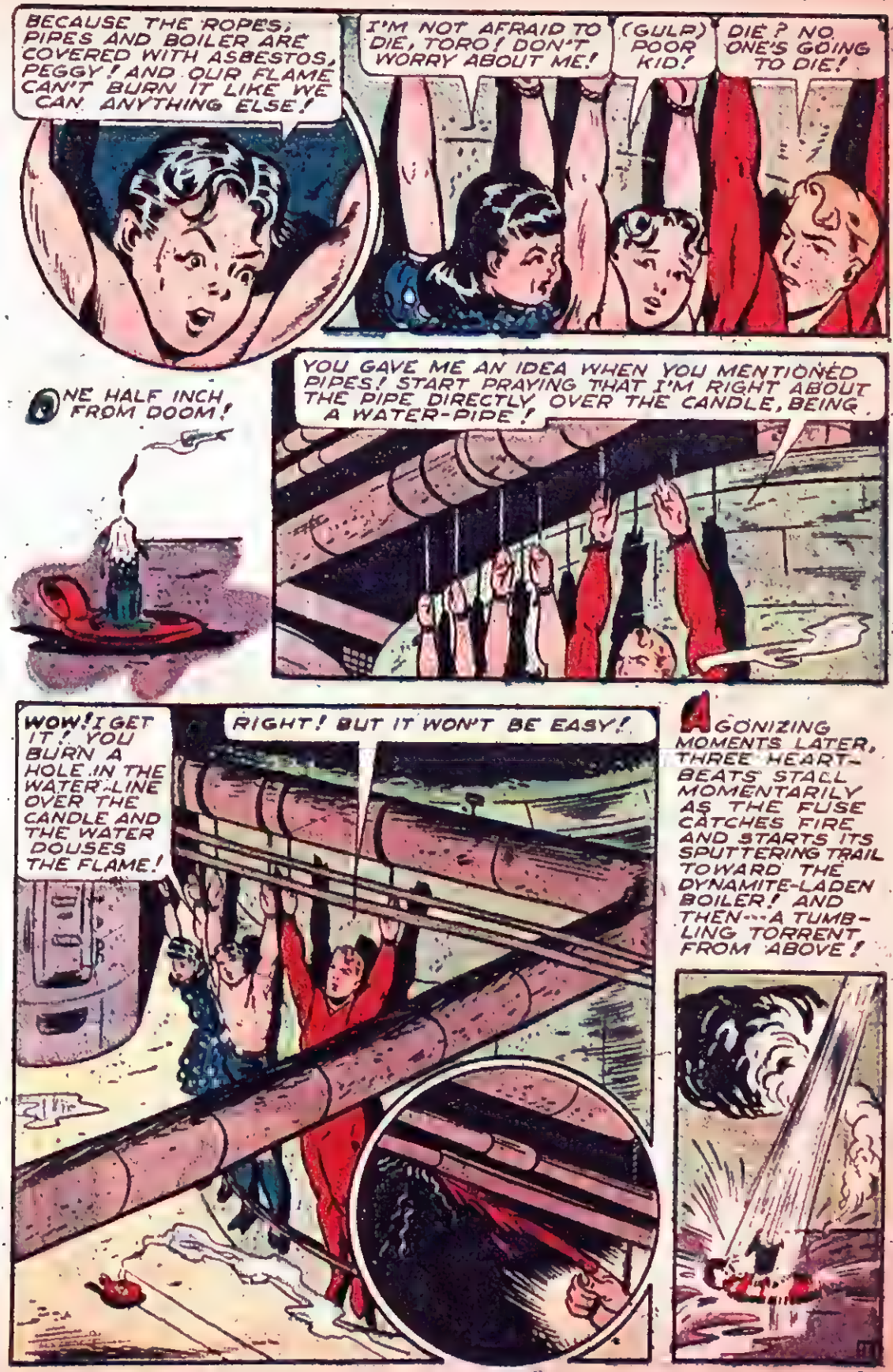
MEANWHILE IN THE HIDEOUT, TORO, HIS EARS ALERT, LISTENS EAGERLY TO HIS CAPTORS' CONVERSATION!

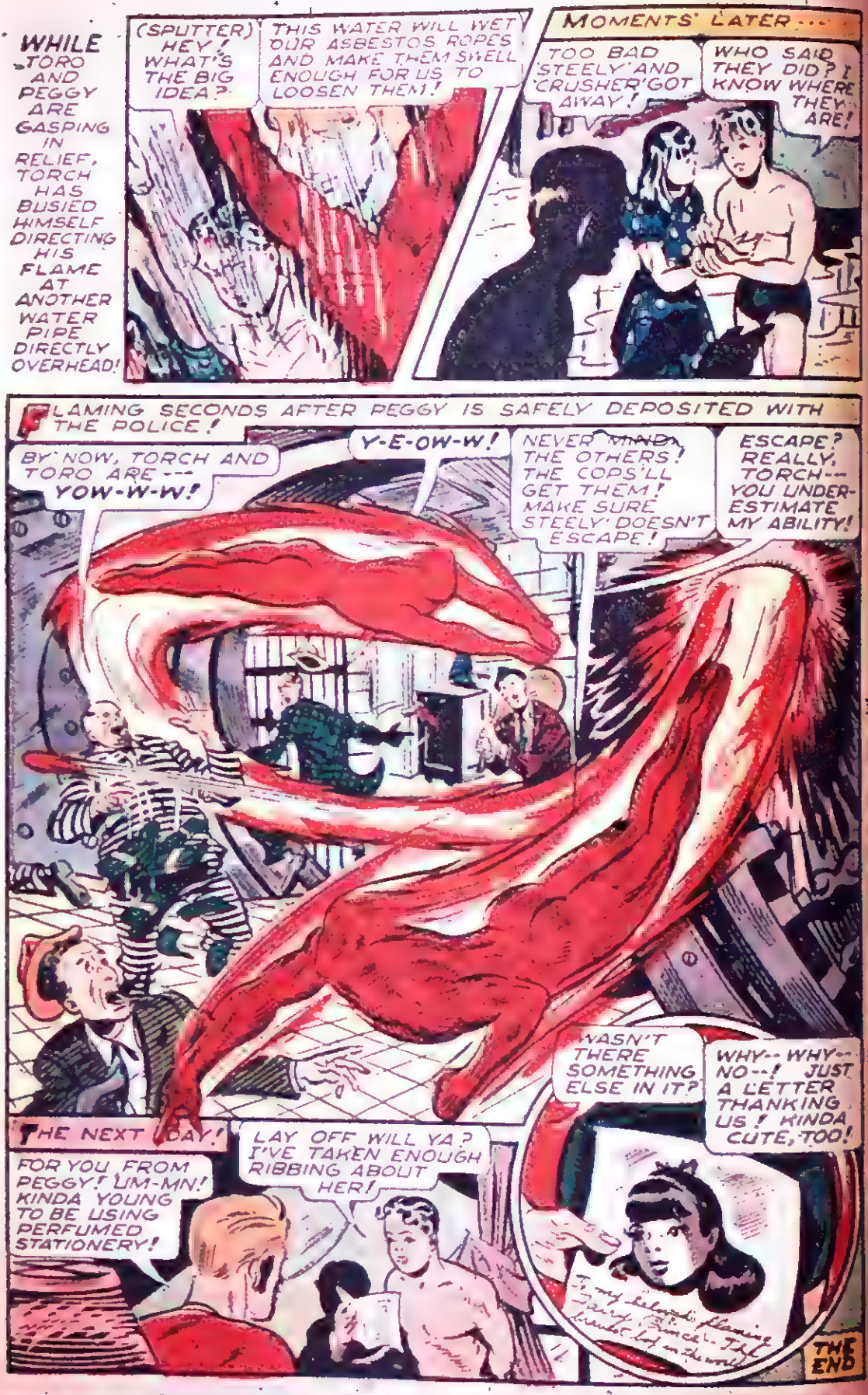
CHEE, 'STEELY'! MAYBE BETTER TO LET THE BOYS DO THE JOB WIDDOUT US! YOU AIN'T FERGITTIN' HOW 'HOT' YOU AND ME--!

NO! I AIN'T FORGETTIN' THAT WE'RE FLAT BROKE EITHER! SO SHUT YOUR YAP AND LISTEN! HERES THE LAYOUT!


HA-HA! SO YOUR FAIRY PRINCE IS GONNA SLAY ALL OF US?
YES! BECAUSE HE IS BRAVE AND BOLD! AND SMARTER THAN ALL OF YOU!
TOO LATE, TORO TRIES TO STOP THE BLABBING CHILD!
AND BECAUSE HE WROTE A MESSAGE TO TORCH ON MY HAIR-RIBBON---
PEGGY, STOP!
HEY, STEELY!
YOU'RE CRAZY TO BELIEVE HER! SHE WAS BABBLING LIKE ALL KIDS---
OW!
HER HAIR-RIBBON IS MISSING! I REMEMBER HER WEARING IT!
GAG 'EM SO THEY CAN'T WARN TORCH, WHILE I PREPARE A NICE WELCOME!
(SOB) I DIDN'T MEAN TO TELL.. (SOB)
ONLY MINUTES LATER, THE STEALTHY FIGURE OF TORCH SLIPS INTO THE HIDEOUT, WHILE TORO STRUGGLING FUTILELY TO WARN HIM, SEES THE TRAP BEING SPRUNG!
THANK HEAVENS! THEY'RE SAFE!
9

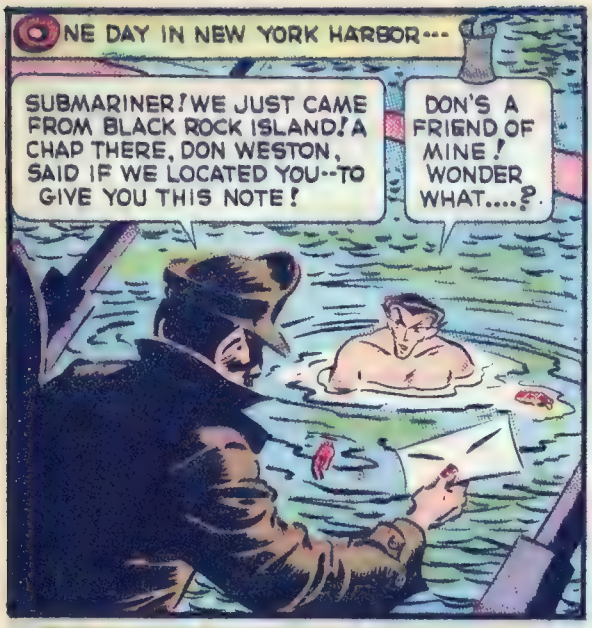
GET THE ASBESTOS ROPES ON HIM BEFORE HE CAN FLAME!
UGH!
MOMENTS LATER.....
COME ON, BOYS! GET THAT DYNAMITE LOADED INTO THE BOILER!
AT EXACTLY ELEVEN O-CLOCK WHEN I WAS SUPPOSED TO FRY IN THE HOT SEAT, THE FLAME WILL REACH THE FUSE! AND THEN--- BOOM! NO MORE TORCH! HA-HA-HA!
THAT THING MAY GO OFF BEFORE HAND! COME ON!
SORRY I CAN'T BE AROUND TO SEE THE FIRE-WORKS! SO LONG FOR GOOD! HA-HA-HA!
TORCH AND TORO STRUGGLE FRANTICALLY TO LOOSEN THEIR BONDS!
WHY CAN'T YOU FLAME AND BURN THE ROPES?
NO USE! (PUFF-PUFF)

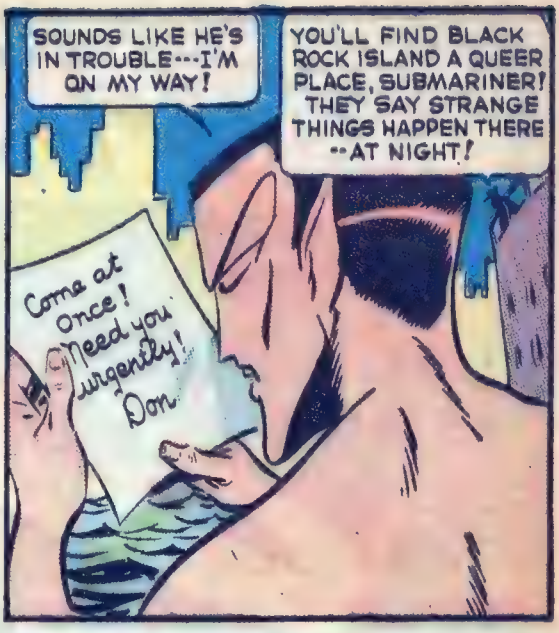

BECAUSE THE ROPES, PIPES AND BOILER ARE COVERED WITH ASBESTOS, PEGGY! AND OUR FLAME CAN'T BURN IT LIKE WE CAN ANYTHING ELSE!
I'M NOT AFRAID TO DIE, TORO! DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME!
(GULP) POOR KID!
DIE? NO ONE'S GOING TO DIE!
ONE HALF INCH FROM DOOM!
YOU GAVE ME AN IDEA WHEN YOU MENTIONED PIPES! START PRAYING THAT I'M RIGHT ABOUT THE PIPE DIRECTLY OVER THE CANDLE, BEING A WATER-PIPE!
WOW! I GET IT! YOU BURN A HOLE IN THE WATER-LINE OVER THE CANDLE AND THE WATER DOUSES THE FLAME!
RIGHT! BUT IT WON'T BE EASY!
AGONIZING MOMENTS LATER, THREE HEART-BEATS STALL MOMENTARILY AS THE FUSE CATCHES FIRE AND STARTS ITS SPUTTERING TRAIL TOWARD THE DYNAMITE-LADEN BOILER! AND THEN---A TUMBLING TORRENT FROM ABOVE!

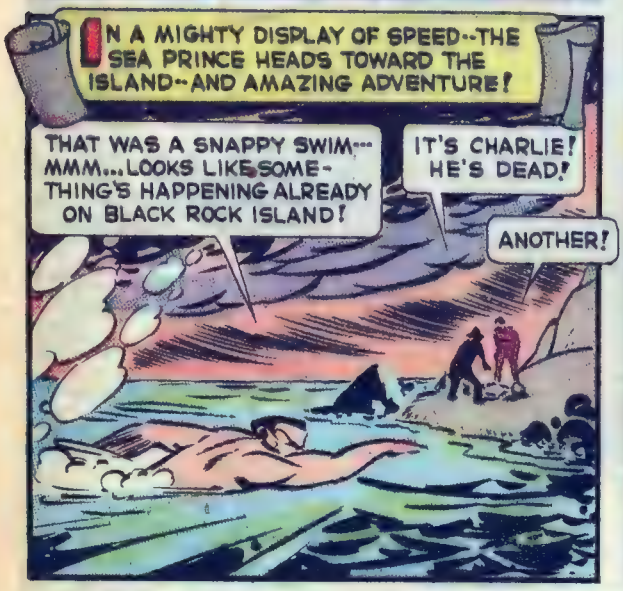

WHILE TORO AND PEGGY ARE GASPING IN RELIEF, TORCH HAS BUSIED HIMSELF DIRECTING HIS FLAME AT ANOTHER WATER PIPE DIRECTLY OVERHEAD!
(SPUTTER) HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
THIS WATER WILL WET OUR ASBESTOS ROPES AND MAKE THEM SWELL ENOUGH FOR US TO LOOSEN THEM!
MOMENTS LATER...
TOO BAD 'STEELY' AND 'CRUSHER' GOT AWAY!
WHO SAID THEY DID? I KNOW WHERE THEY ARE!
FLAMING SECONDS AFTER PEGGY IS SAFELY DEPOSITED WITH THE POLICE!
BY NOW, TORCH AND TORO ARE --- YOW-W-W!
Y-E-OW-W!
NEVER MIND THE OTHERS! THE COPS'LL GET THEM! MAKE SURE STEELY' DOESN'T ESCAPE!
ESCAPE? REALLY, TORCH-- YOU UNDER-ESTIMATE MY ABILITY!
WASN'T THERE SOMETHING ELSE IN IT?
WHY-- WHY-- NO--! JUST A LETTER THANKING US! KINDA CUTE, TOO!
THE NEXT DAY!
FOR YOU FROM PEGGY! UM-MN! KINDA YOUNG TO BE USING PERFUMED STATIONERY!
LAY OFF WILL YA? I'VE TAKEN ENOUGH RIBBING ABOUT HER!
THE END

ON A LONELY ISLAND WHERE THE FOAMING SEA POUNDS AGAINST BLACK ROCKS---A WEIRD WINGED CREATURE FLITS---AND THOSE WHO VIEW IT ARE MARKED FOR SUDDEN GRISLY DEATH! WHAT IS THIS EVIL FLYING THING? IS IT A BAT---OR IS IT SOMETHING MORE DIABOLICAL THAT STRIKES BEYOND THE POWER OF MAN? THAT COURAGEOUS CRIME-CRUSHER THE MIGHTY **SUBMARINER** FINDS THE BIZARRE ANSWER---AT RISK OF HIS LIFE---AS HE PERILOUSLY SMASHES INTO THE SENSATIONAL SECRET OF THE EERIE, BEWITCHING

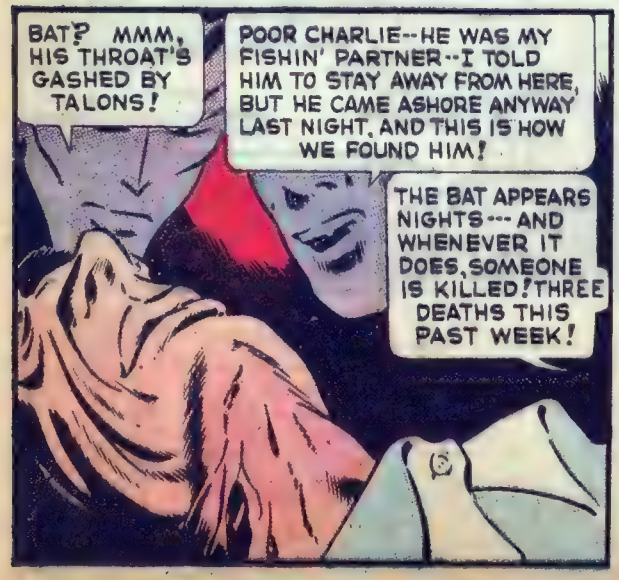
"STING of the BAT!"

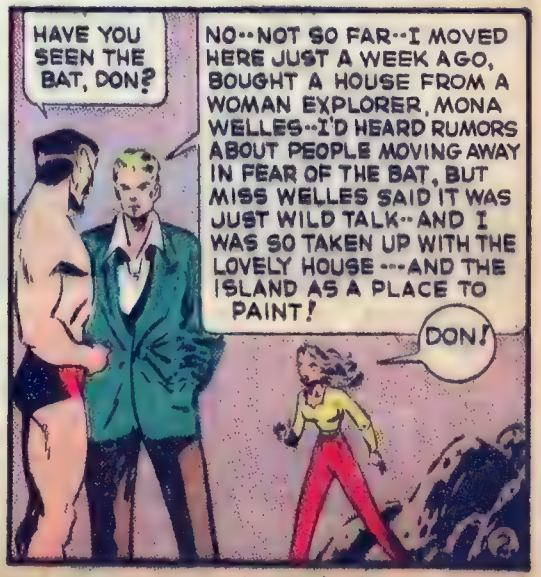

ONE DAY IN NEW YORK HARBOR---
SUBMARINER! WE JUST CAME FROM BLACK ROCK ISLAND! A CHAP THERE, DON WESTON, SAID IF WE LOCATED YOU--TO GIVE YOU THIS NOTE!
DON'S A FRIEND OF MINE! WONDER WHAT....?


SOUNDS LIKE HE'S IN TROUBLE---I'M ON MY WAY!
YOU'LL FIND BLACK ROCK ISLAND A QUEER PLACE, SUBMARINER! THEY SAY STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN THERE --AT NIGHT!
Come at Once! Need you urgently! Don


IN A MIGHTY DISPLAY OF SPEED--THE SEA PRINCE HEADS TOWARD THE ISLAND--AND AMAZING ADVENTURE!
THAT WAS A SNAPPY SWIM--- MMM...LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING'S HAPPENING ALREADY ON BLACK ROCK ISLAND!
IT'S CHARLIE! HE'S DEAD!
ANOTHER!

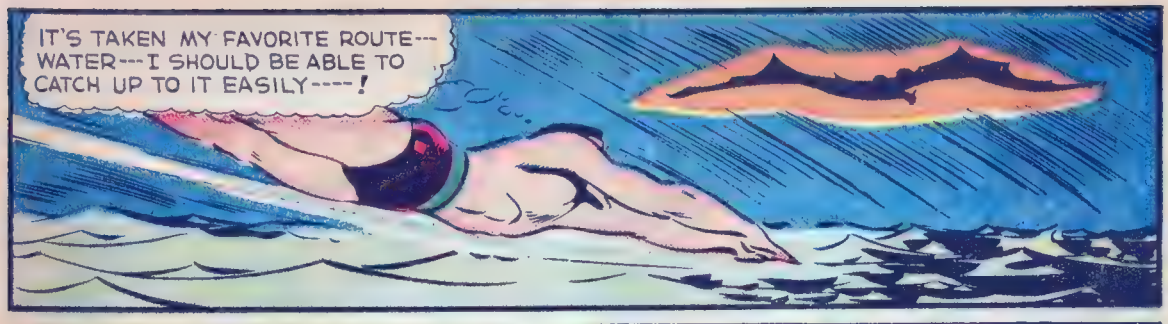
SUBMARINER! THANK HEAVENS! YOU GOT MY MESSAGE!
WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT, DON? THAT DEAD MAN, HOW DID THAT--?
THE BAT! THE BAT DID IT!

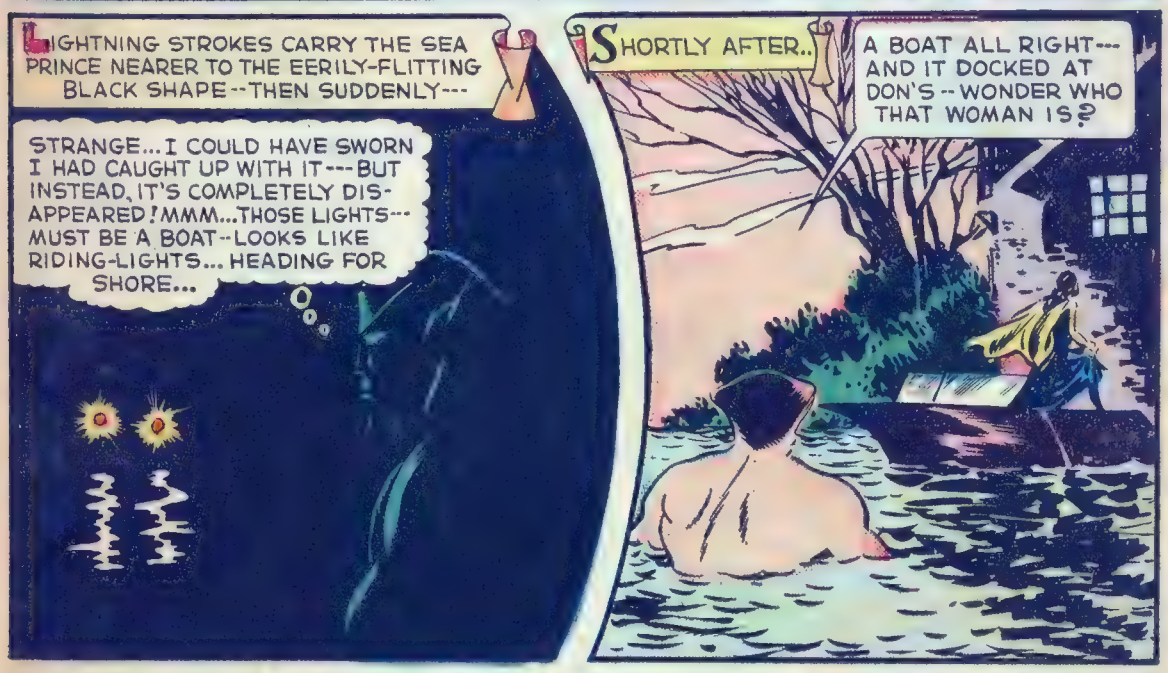

BAT? MMM, HIS THROAT'S GASHED BY TALONS!
POOR CHARLIE--HE WAS MY FISHIN' PARTNER--I TOLD HIM TO STAY AWAY FROM HERE, BUT HE CAME ASHORE ANYWAY LAST NIGHT, AND THIS IS HOW WE FOUND HIM!
THE BAT APPEARS NIGHTS--- AND WHENEVER IT DOES, SOMEONE IS KILLED! THREE DEATHS THIS PAST WEEK!

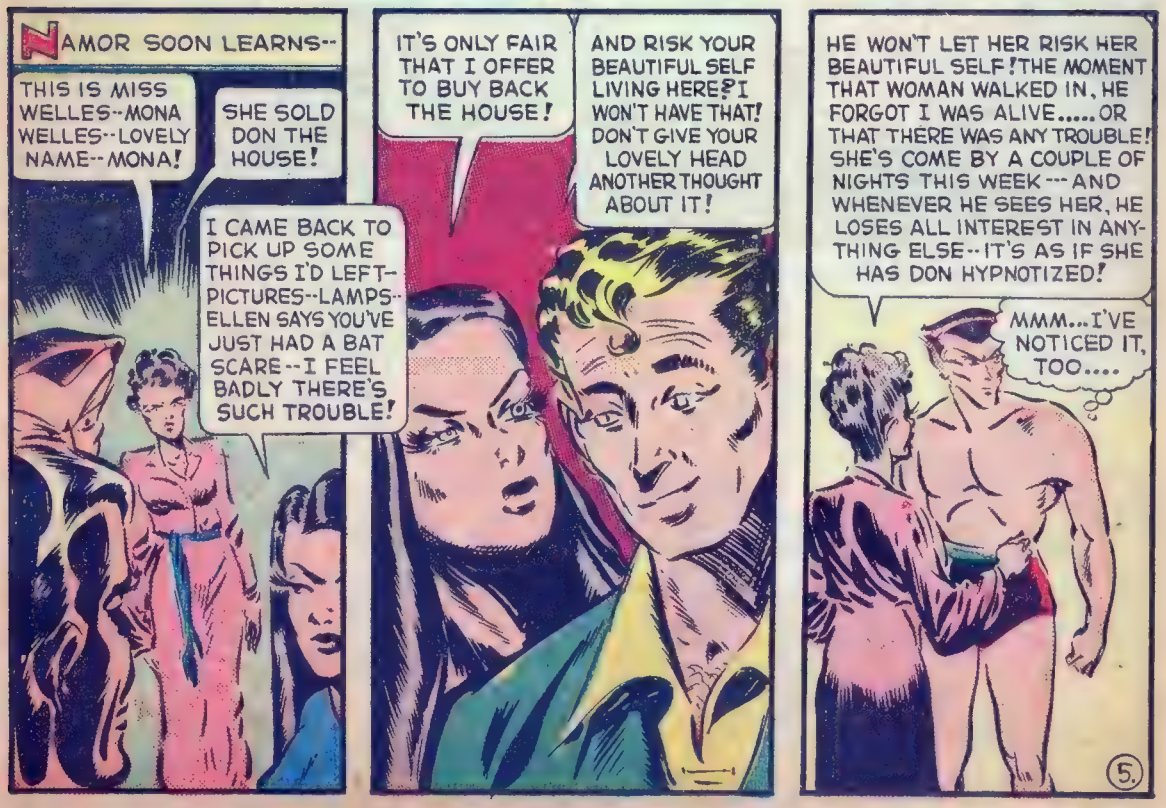

HAVE YOU SEEN THE BAT, DON?
NO--NOT SO FAR--I MOVED HERE JUST A WEEK AGO, BOUGHT A HOUSE FROM A WOMAN EXPLORER, MONA WELLES--I'D HEARD RUMORS ABOUT PEOPLE MOVING AWAY IN FEAR OF THE BAT, BUT MISS WELLES SAID IT WAS JUST WILD TALK--AND I WAS SO TAKEN UP WITH THE LOVELY HOUSE ---AND THE ISLAND AS A PLACE TO PAINT!
DON!

SUBMARINER, THIS IS MY FIANCÉE ELLEN BRADLY, AND HER UNCLE WILLIAM...THEY CAME OUT HERE WITH ME.... ELLEN SAYS SHE SAW THE BAT!
LAST NIGHT--FROM A DISTANCE--AS I WAS LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW ....IT WAS HUGE, BLACK, HORRIBLE--OH, SUBMARINER, YOU MUST HELP US!
I'LL DO MY BEST TO CATCH THE BAT! SAY, WHO'S THAT?
THAT'S JIM, THE GARDENER---HE WORKED FOR MISS WELLES--I'M KEEPING HIM ON!
HE SAYS HE HASN'T SEEN THE BAT--HAVE YOU, JIM?
BAT?NO--NEVER-AND I BEEN LIVING ON THIS ISLAND FOR YEARS!
BOTH HE AND MISS WELLES DENY ITS EXISTENCE---AND NONE OF YOU HAVE SEEN IT EXCEPT ELLEN--YET, THOSE DEATHS--THEY'RE NO ONE'S IMAGINATION--I'LL STAY THE NIGHT AND INVESTIGATE THIS BAT MYSTERY!
GOOD! HERE'S THE HOUSE--MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME--IF ANYONE CAN FEEL AT HOME NOW!
The GLOOMY DAY WANES--AND AS NIGHT SHROUDS THE ISLAND!
KEEP ALL THE WINDOWS SHUTTERED AND LOCKED--AND THE DOORS BOLTED! I'M GOING TO LOOK ABOUT THE ISLAND!
GOOD LUCK--AND IF ANYTHING GETS IN HERE, I'VE GOT MY RIFLE!
NOTHING CAN POSSIBLY GET IN--WITH THE WHOLE HOUSE LOCKED UP!
TWENTY MINUTES LATER, NAMOR RETURNS!
I'VE BEEN OVER THE WHOLE ISLAND--NOT A SIGN OF ANYTHING--AND NOT A SOUND BUT THE BEATING OF THE SURF--- WHERE'S ELLEN?
SHE GOT SLEEPY AND WENT TO BED!
WHILE IN ELLEN'S ROOM--THE GIRL AWAKENS FROM SLUMBER--WITH A START!
IT'S AS IF SOMETHING'S HERE WITH ME-SOMETHING RUSTLING--BUT NOTHING COULD HAVE--THAT SHADOW--OH---NO--!
3

HELP! HELP!
IT'S ELLEN!
MY THROAT! IT'S ----
IT'S GOING TO BE STOPPED!
STEEL-STRONG FISTS CRASH INTO THE WINGED WEIRD CREATURE OF DEATH!
THIS IS ONE TIME I GET THE BIRD!
The NEXT INSTANT...
OH--IT WANTS TO FIGHT---JUST GRAZED ME!
THERE! I GOT IT! IT'S ALL OVER! ELLEN, DARLING, YOU ALL RIGHT?
BANG!
YES...THANK HEAVENS... YOU'VE KILLED IT!
BUT A SPLIT SECOND AFTER!
GREAT HEAVENS! THE BULLETS DIDN'T HURT IT! IT GOT AWAY! HOW DID IT GET THE WINDOW OPEN, TOO?
SEEMS ALMOST HUMAN! I'M GOING AFTER IT!
4


IT'S TAKEN MY FAVORITE ROUTE--- WATER---I SHOULD BE ABLE TO CATCH UP TO IT EASILY----!


LIGHTNING STROKES CARRY THE SEA PRINCE NEARER TO THE EERILY-FLITTING BLACK SHAPE--THEN SUDDENLY---
STRANGE...I COULD HAVE SWORN I HAD CAUGHT UP WITH IT---BUT INSTEAD, IT'S COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED! MMM...THOSE LIGHTS--- MUST BE A BOAT--LOOKS LIKE RIDING-LIGHTS... HEADING FOR SHORE...
SHORTLY AFTER..
A BOAT ALL RIGHT--- AND IT DOCKED AT DON'S--WONDER WHO THAT WOMAN IS?


NAMOR SOON LEARNS--
THIS IS MISS WELLES--MONA WELLES--LOVELY NAME--MONA!
SHE SOLD DON THE HOUSE!
I CAME BACK TO PICK UP SOME THINGS I'D LEFT--PICTURES--LAMPS--ELLEN SAYS YOU'VE JUST HAD A BAT SCARE--I FEEL BADLY THERE'S SUCH TROUBLE!
IT'S ONLY FAIR THAT I OFFER TO BUY BACK THE HOUSE!
AND RISK YOUR BEAUTIFUL SELF LIVING HERE? I WON'T HAVE THAT! DON'T GIVE YOUR LOVELY HEAD ANOTHER THOUGHT ABOUT IT!
HE WON'T LET HER RISK HER BEAUTIFUL SELF! THE MOMENT THAT WOMAN WALKED IN, HE FORGOT I WAS ALIVE.....OR THAT THERE WAS ANY TROUBLE! SHE'S COME BY A COUPLE OF NIGHTS THIS WEEK---AND WHENEVER HE SEES HER, HE LOSES ALL INTEREST IN ANYTHING ELSE--IT'S AS IF SHE HAS DON HYPNOTIZED!
MMM...I'VE NOTICED IT, TOO....
5.

Later
THANKS FOR PUTTING MY THINGS ABOARD! I CAN'T LOAD THE BOAT WITH ANY MORE! I'LL BE BACK TOMORROW NIGHT FOR THE REST---I'LL BE BACK, DON!
I'LL BE WAITING--AND REMEMBERING HOW ENCHANTING YOU LOOK IN THE MOONLIGHT!
SHE'S GONE, DON--- YOU'D BETTER GET BACK TO ELLEN--- REMEMBER, SHE'S HAD A BAD SCARE!
SCARE? ELLEN? YES, YES--I'M GOING BACK!
AND I'M GOING ON--TO FOLLOW MONA WELLES' BOAT---I'VE A HUNCH THERE'S SOMETHING MORE TO---
WHAT'S THAT SOUND? WHO'S THERE?
CRACK!
THAT MAN! WHAT'S HE UP TO? YOU---THERE!
As NAMOR SPRINTS AFTER THE FLEEING STRANGER---
SO HE WANTS TO PLAY!
BOOMERANG! TWO CAN PLAY AT THIS GAME---AND NOW FOR THE $64 QUESTION! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
6

PLEASE! I'M NO CRIMINAL! I DIDN'T INTEND TO STEAL IT IF I FOUND IT--I WANTED TO RETURN IT TO THEM AND GET THEIR BLESSINGS---- THEIR BLESSINGS ARE WORTH MORE THAN PRECIOUS GEMS!
WHOSE BLESSINGS? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THE ANZATEC TRIBE IN MEXICO-- MONA WELLES STOPPED WITH THEM 3 YEARS AGO---AT THE TIME I, TOO, LIVED WITH THEM--- THEIR GOD IMAGE, THE IVORY AND RUBY HEAD, DISAPPEARED! THEY THOUGHT SHE HAD STOLEN IT! SHE DENIED IT, BUT THEY MADE HER DRINK THE POTION OF DISGRACE BEFORE THEY DROVE HER OUT! SHE MAY HAVE HIDDEN THE IMAGE ON THE ISLAND--BEFORE SHE DIED!
DIED?
YES---I CAME HERE MONTHS LATER AND PEOPLE SAID SHE HAD DIED NOT LONG AFTER SHE CAME HOME! I WANTED TO VISIT HER GRAVE BUT THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHERE IT WAS OR WHO HAD BURIED HER...I HAD NO TIME TO REMAIN AND SEARCH FOR THE IMAGE THEN---BUT NOW I THOUGHT I WOULD!
BUT MONA WELLES ISN'T DEAD--SHE WAS HERE--- TONIGHT--SOON AFTER THE BAT CAME!
At THAT WORD, THE STRANGER, SUDDENLY TERROR-STRICKEN, BREAKS AWAY!
THE BAT! IT'S TRUE! THE CURSE CAME TRUE! THEN IT'S A DEVIL ISLAND NOW! I'M GETTING OFF! DON'T STOP ME! I WON'T SAY ANOTHER WORD!
I'LL LET HIM GO--- HE'S SAID ENOUGH-- ENOUGH TO MAKE ME VERY CURIOUS ABOUT THE ANZATEC TRIBE-- BUT I CAN'T FIND OUT UNTIL MORNING!
EARLY MORNING FINDS THE SEA PRINCE SWIMMING TO THE MAINLAND--AND THE PUBLIC LIBRARY!
AND THE ANZATEC TRIBE HAS MAINTAINED THE LEGEND OF THE WEIRD VAMPIRE BAT. POTIONS THAT THE TRIBE MIXES OF BIRDS AND HUMANS ARE SAID TO CAUSE PARTIAL DEATH TO ANYONE WHO DRINKS THEM--DEATH BY DAY--AND THE VAMPIRE FORM BY NIGHT.
VAMPIRE! THAT MUST BE IT! I'LL READ ON!
NOT LONG AFTER--
I'VE FULL INFORMATION-- IT FITS IN WITH WHAT HAPPENED TO MONA WELLES--HER SUDDEN NIGHTLY APPEARANCES---AT NIGHT THE VAMPIRE CAN MOVE AROUND AS A HUMAN OR A BAT! BUT BY DAYBREAK, IT MUST RETURN TO ITS COFFIN--OR LOSE ITS POWERS! IF I CAN LEARN WHERE HER COFFIN IS, I CAN PUT AN END TO THIS TODAY! I'LL GO BACK--AND FIRST OFF, QUESTION THE GARDENER!
7

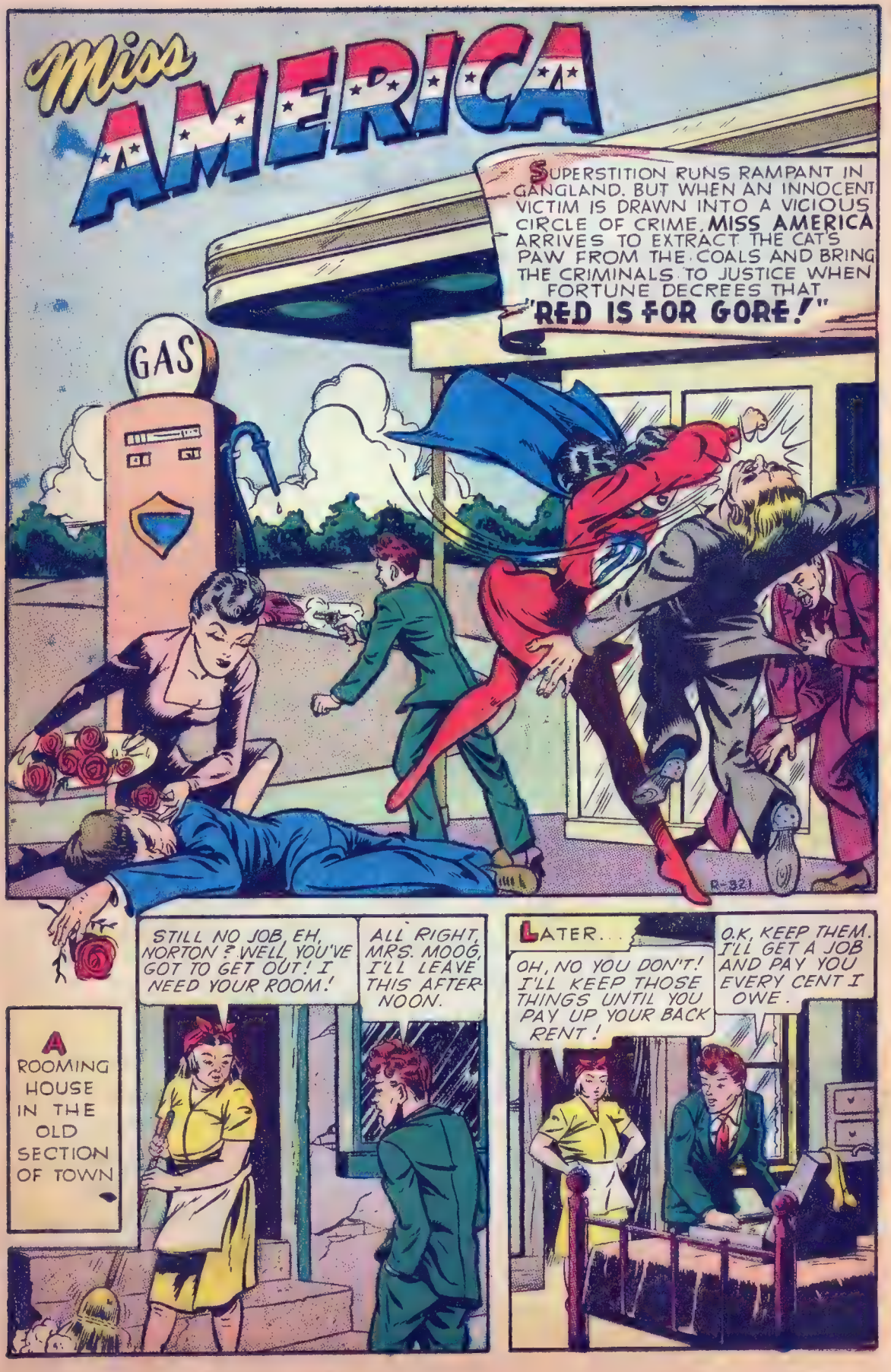
BUT!
HER COFFIN? BUT MISS WELLES AIN'T DEAD--NEVER SEEN HER BE ANYTHING BUT ALIVE--THAT'S THE TRUTH!
NO USE--CAN'T GET ANYTHING OUT OF HIM--MAYBE HE DOESN'T KNOW....
I HEARD YOU ASK ABOUT MONA WELLES BEING DEAD... HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND? YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I THAT SHE'S ALIVE--VERY MUCH SO!
DON, THAT BAT WE SAW...WAS IT A REAL BIRD? WHY DIDN'T YOUR BULLETS PENETRATE IT? HOW DID IT GET IN AND OUT LOCKED WINDOWS? THAT BAT IS A VAMPIRE... HAVE YOU EVER SEEN MONA WELLES IN THE DAY-TIME?
NO! I BOUGHT THE HOUSE FROM HER AT NIGHT, TOO--IT SO HAPPENED I CRUISED HERE THEN AND FELL IN LOVE WITH THE PLACE IMMEDIATELY--- ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME MONA IS DEAD AND CHANGES INTO A VAMPIRE BAT? RIDICULOUS! GET THAT OUT OF YOUR MIND!
I WILL--IF I GET PROOF SHE IS NO VAMPIRE --- DON, WHEN SHE COMES BACK TONIGHT, I'M GOING TO GIVE HER A TEST!
I'VE BROUGHT BACK SOME FRESH CADACIA HERBS--AN UNEARTHLY CREATURE LIKE A VAMPIRE IS REPULSED BY THE EARTHY, PUNGENT SMELL OF THESE HERBS--I'M GOING TO GIVE MISS WELLES A WHIFF! IF SHE REACTS AGAINST THEM, THAT WILL BE PROOF!
I'M SURE SHE WON'T REACT! BETTER NOT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT TO ELLEN OR HER UNCLE! IT'S TOO UPSETTING! THIS WILD IDEA OF YOURS WILL BE OUR SECRET!
SECRET? ALREADY STEALTHY FOOTSTEPS PAD AWAY...
LUCKY I OVERHEARD... TONIGHT I'LL TELL MY LADY THE PLOT AGAINST HER...SHE'LL TAKE CARE! SHE'LL GUARD AGAINST DANGER!
THAT NIGHT--ANOTHER TENSE WATCH---
IT'S PAST MIDNIGHT--AND NO BAT YET---
AND NO MONA--DON, YOU'RE WAITING FOR HER, AREN'T YOU? I KNOW YOU ARE!
PERHAPS HE'S WAITING FOR BOTH OF THEM, ELLEN--AT ONE TIME!
8

OH--ALL RIGHT--YOU MIGHT AS WELL KNOW, ELLEN! SUBMARINER HAS A CRAZY NOTION THAT MONA'S A VAMPIRE BAT--THAT AT DAY SHE SLEEPS IN A COFFIN AND AT NIGHT--AT NIGHT--- SUBMARINER, WHY ARE YOU OPENING THAT WINDOW?
I THOUGHT I HEARD A CRY OUT THERE!
HELP! THE BAT!
SOMEONE'S IN TROUBLE OUT THERE! I'M GOING! LOCK THE WINDOW! DON, STAND WATCH HERE!
IN A THICKET...
HE'S COMING! YOU'RE GOOD TO HAVE WARNED ME, JIM, ABOUT THOSE HERBS! ALWAYS MY FAITHFUL SERVANT!
YES, MY LADY--IN LIFE AND DEATH---WE'LL GET RID OF SUBMARINER! I'LL STRIKE HIM DOWN!
THE BAT! IT'S CHOKING ME-- IT'S---
THAT VOICE--THAT INFLECTION'S BEGINNING TO SOUND FAMILIAR! OF COURSE, THE GARDENER TRYING TO DISGUISE HIMSELF--THAT'S WHERE I HEARD IT--MUST BE A TRAP--I'LL CIRCLE AROUND....
HELP! AAGH!
SO THAT'S IT... HE'S ALL SET WITH A CROWBAR... HERE'S ONE SURPRISE HE DIDN'T COUNT ON!
SAVE THE TONSILS, YODELER-- AND NOW TO GET THAT VAMPIRE!
9

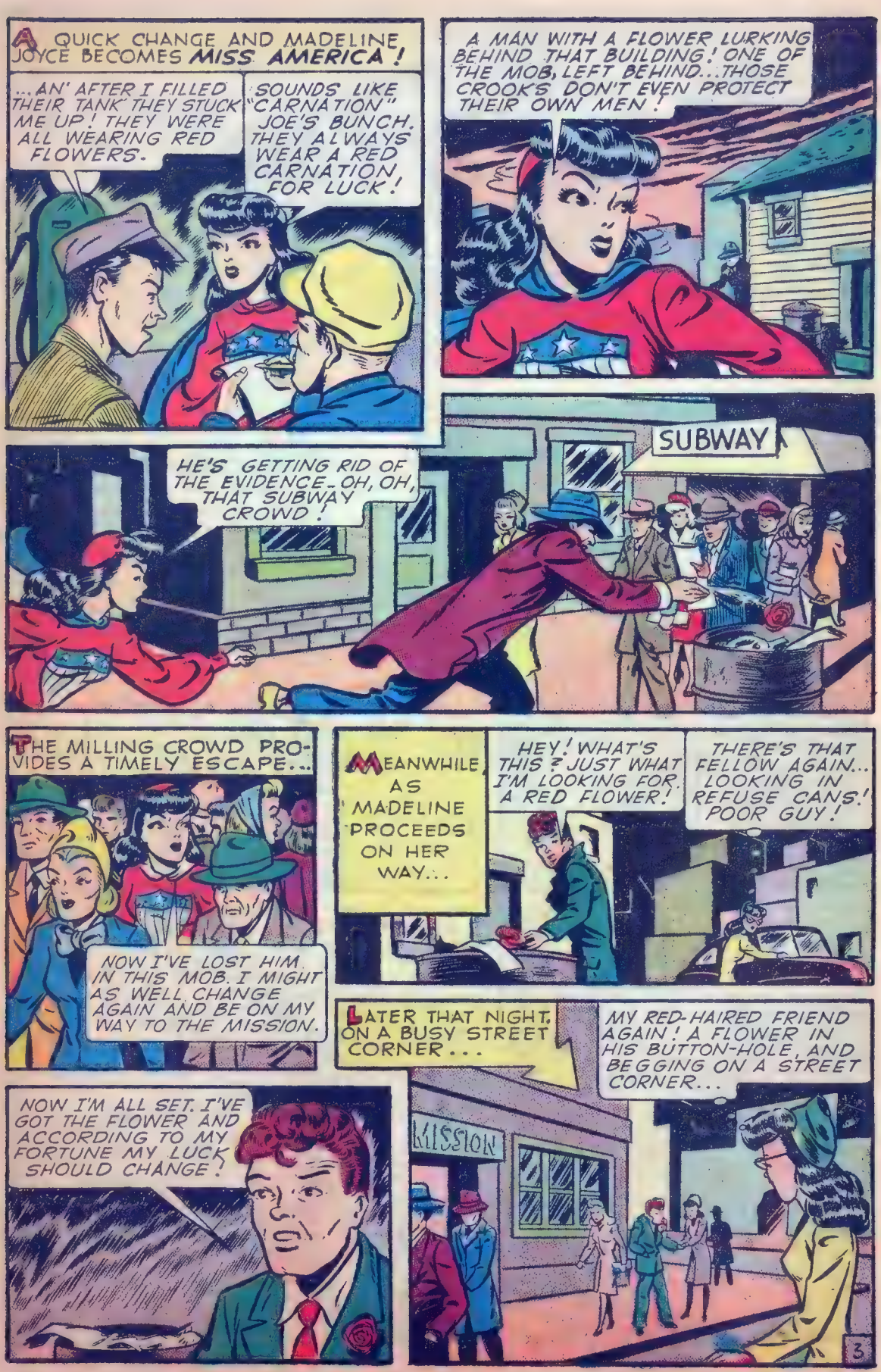
GAINING ON IT! AS SOON AS I GET CLOSE ENOUGH, I'LL GIVE OUT WITH THE HERBS — THAT'LL BE A STOPPER!
But A MOMENT LATER, AN UNEXPECTED STOPPER -- FOR SUBMARINER!
A WIRE! DIDN'T SEE IT IN THE DARK!
As NAMOR'S WEIGHT TUGS THE WIRE, A TRAP IS SPRUNG!
IT WORKED! YOUR MAKING HIM FOLLOW YOU! LUCKY WE SET THIS TRAP, TOO, IN CASE I DIDN'T GET HIM WITH THE CROW-BAR! WE'LL PUT HIM IN THE SECRET CAVE, MY LADY, AS WE PLANNED!
Moments FLUTTER BY -- AND THE WEAKENED SEA PRINCE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS!
OH, WHAT..? YOU! THE VAMPIRE! WHY NOT GET BACK TO YOUR BAT FORM, MONA? IT'S MUCH MORE BECOMING!
VERY FUNNY--AND YOUR LAST WISE-CRACK, SUBMARINER! YOU'RE TOO WEAK TO BREAK YOUR CHAINS!
YOU'LL DIE IN THIS CAVE! OTHERS WILL DIE, TOO -- ELLEN -- SHE STANDS BE-TWEEN ME AND DON, BUT NOT MUCH LONGER! LET'S LEAVE HERE, JIM!
Soon!
THEY'VE GONE OUT AND SEALED THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAVE! UGGH---- CAN'T BREAK MY CHAINS --- IF I ONLY HAD SOME WATER, TO REGAIN MY STRENGTH-NO USE --- NOTHING HERE-- WHAT A MESS-- NOTHING-- BUT DEATH!
As THE SEA PRINCE WEAKLY RESIGNS HIMSELF TO THE SILENCE OF THE AIRLESS CAVERN....
TRICKLE TRICKLE
WHAT'S THAT? SOUNDS LIKE A FAINT TRICKLE OF WATER -- COMES FROM BE-HIND THAT BOULDER .... GOT TO REMOVE THAT ROCK..... IT'S MY ONE CHANCE! HAVEN'T THE STRENGTH -- BUT MAYBE -- THAT STICK!
10

IN QUICK SECONDS, THE SEA PRINCE IS FEVERISHLY, DESPERATELY DIGGING!
IF I WEREN'T SO WEAK NOW, I'D BE ABLE TO SMASH THAT BOULDER OUT! NOT HAVE TO POKE LIKE THIS--BUT--BETTER THAN NOTHING--AT LAST--THE BOULDER'S STARTING TO MOVE!
FINALLY, THE HUGE ROCK IS DISPLACED!
WATER! A WHOLE WATERFALL! IT HAD BEEN DAMMED UP IN THERE! AH, GREAT! MY STRENGTH'S COME BACK... NOW TO GET OUT OF HERE!
NOT LONG AFTER--AT DON'S HOUSE!
MONA! I KNEW YOU'D COME BACK!
AND FOR THE LAST TIME--GET OUT! YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH TO DON, TO US!
INFURIATED, THE UNEARTHLY BEING TAKES ON HER EVIL TRANSFORMATION....!
FOOLS! I'LL KILL YOU BOTH! NOTHING CAN STOP ME! NOTHING--NO ONE CAN KILL ME!
THE VAMPIRE! THEN IT'S TRUE! WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!
DON'T SAY THAT, DON! YOU'LL HAVE A WONDERFUL, POWERFUL FUTURE ONCE I'VE DONE WITH THESE TWO! I'LL TURN YOU INTO A VAMPIRE LIKE MYSELF!
I'M--I'M CHOKING!
LET GO! AAG!
SUDDENLY--AS IRON-LIKE TALONS ARE ABOUT TO TIGHTEN....!
SUBMARINER! THANK HEAVENS! AND THE HERBS!
I LOST THEM---BUT PICKED THEM UP ON MY WAY BACK HERE--AND JUST IN TIME!
UGH! UPH!
11

SHE--IT--COULDN'T STAND THE HERBS--YOU WERE RIGHT, SUBMARINER! I WAS BEWITCHED.... BUT THAT TERRIBLE THING'S GOT AWAY AGAIN!
LET IT GO.... IT WOULD'VE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD IT HERE...BUT ITS SPELL WILL BE BROKEN AT DAYBREAK! WE'RE GOING TO WITNESS THE ENDING!
BUT HOW? WHERE?
HOURS PASS--- AND....
IT'S NEARLY DAY-BREAK--WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO A SPOT WHERE I FOUND A COFFIN--EMPTY EXCEPT FOR A RUBY IMAGE WHICH I'M GOING TO SEND BACK TO THE ANZATEC TRIBE! IT'S WHAT MONA WELLES STOLE FROM THEM--A THEFT RESPONSIBLE FOR HER DOOM--I CAME ACROSS THE COFFIN ON MY WAY OUT OF THE CAVE---AND DUMPED IT INTO THE SEA! NOW.... WATCH!
INSIDE THE CAVE--FRANTIC WINGS BEAT AGAINST COLD ROCK WALLS!
MY COFFIN! WHERE IS IT? IT'S GONE! I CAN'T LIVE UNLESS I REST IN IT! FIND IT, JIM! THERE'S LITTLE TIME!
I'VE LOOKED EVERY-WHERE; MY LADY... EVERYWHERE!
A MOMENT LATER--THE ROSY FLUSH OF DAWN STREAKS THE SKY--- AND THE VAMPIRE SHATTERS TO THE GROUND!
SHE'S DEAD--NEVER TO COME ALIVE AGAIN! WE'LL BURY HER FOREVER!
MY LADY'S GONE! I WANT TO LEAVE, TOO!
BANG!
HE'S KILLED HIMSELF! HE WAS TOO FAR GONE ANYWAY.... UNDER HER SPELL!
THANKS TO YOU, I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE PULLED OUT OF IT! ELLEN, DARLING, CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME?
OF COURSE! FROM NOW ON, YOU STAY BEWITCHED ONLY BY ME!
6 MONTHS LATER...
DON! ELLEN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN NEW YORK? ANY MORE BATS?
NO...ELLEN AND I ARE MARRIED AND LIVE ON THE ISLAND IN PEACE AND QUIET--OOPS, PARDON ME! THERE IS ONE VAMPIRE BAT IN OUR LIVES!
DON DID A PAINTING OF ONE--AND IT JUST WON THE $5,000 1ST PRIZE IN AN ART EXHIBIT!
THE END


Miss AMERICA
SUPERSTITION RUNS RAMPANT IN GANGLAND. BUT WHEN AN INNOCENT VICTIM IS DRAWN INTO A VICIOUS CIRCLE OF CRIME, MISS AMERICA ARRIVES TO EXTRACT THE CAT'S PAW FROM THE COALS AND BRING THE CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE WHEN FORTUNE DECREES THAT "RED IS FOR GORE!"
GAS
A ROOMING HOUSE IN THE OLD SECTION OF TOWN
STILL NO JOB, EH, NORTON? WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT! I NEED YOUR ROOM!
ALL RIGHT, MRS. MOOG, I'LL LEAVE THIS AFTER-NOON.
LATER...
OH, NO YOU DON'T! I'LL KEEP THOSE THINGS UNTIL YOU PAY UP YOUR BACK RENT!
O.K, KEEP THEM. I'LL GET A JOB AND PAY YOU EVERY CENT I OWE.

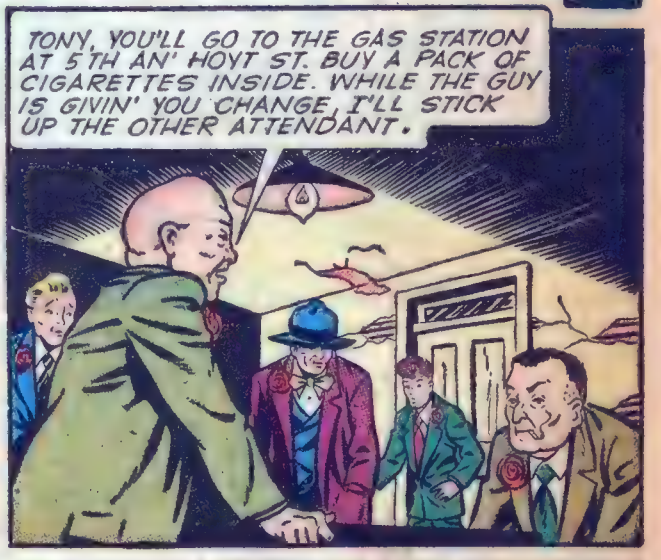
JUST AT THAT TIME, MADELINE JOYCE LEAVES HER LONG ISLAND HOME...
I THINK I'LL STOP AT MADISON STREET MISSION...SEE HOW THEY'RE GETTING ALONG...
SOON...
QUITE A CROWD! I WONDER WHAT THE ATTRACTION IS? I'LL HOP OVER AND TAKE A LOOK-SEE!
AND APPROACHING THE SAME CORNER FROM ANOTHER DIRECTION...
BROKE AND JOBLESS! I'M HOMELESS TOO! I MUST GET A JOB! HMM— WONDER WHAT THE CROWD IS FOR?
...AN' IT SEZ I'M GONNA MEET A RICH FELLER AN' GO TO EUROPE ON AN EXTENDED HONEYMOON!
MAKE MINE A GOOD ONE, POLLY...I'M BANKING MY LAST DIME ON YOU!
YOUR FORTUNE 10¢
FORTUNE
RED IS YOUR COLOR, YOU OUGHT TO KNOW. WEAR A RED FLOWER AND POVERTY WILL GO!
WEAR A RED FLOWER, HUH! WHERE WOULD I GET ONE? I HAVEN'T EVEN GOT A NICKEL FOR A CUP OF COFFEE!
I HOPE THAT FELLOW GOT SOME ENCOURAGEMENT OUT OF HIS FORTUNE. HE LOOKS AS IF HE NEEDS IT!
MADELINE CONTINUES ON HER WAY, WHEN SUDDENLY...
SHOTS! LOOKS LIKE THAT GAS STATION WAS JUST HELD UP! MISS AMERICA MAY BE ABLE TO LEND A HAND!
2.

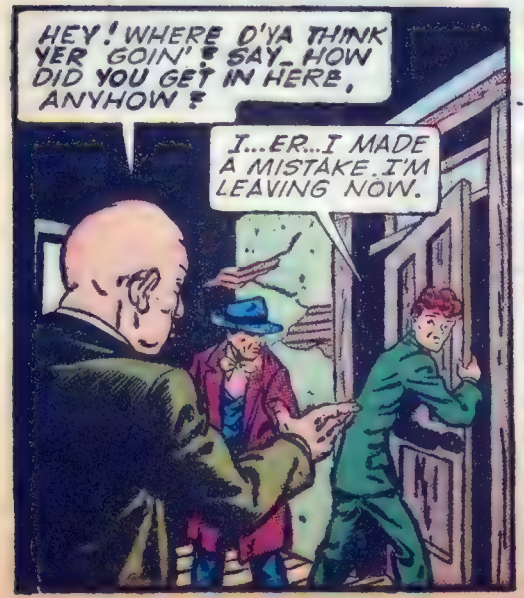

A QUICK CHANGE AND MADELINE JOYCE BECOMES MISS AMERICA!
...AN' AFTER I FILLED THEIR TANK THEY STUCK ME UP! THEY WERE ALL WEARING RED FLOWERS.
SOUNDS LIKE "CARNATION" JOE'S BUNCH. THEY ALWAYS WEAR A RED CARNATION FOR LUCK!
A MAN WITH A FLOWER LURKING BEHIND THAT BUILDING! ONE OF THE MOB, LEFT BEHIND...THOSE CROOKS DON'T EVEN PROTECT THEIR OWN MEN!
SUBWAY
HE'S GETTING RID OF THE EVIDENCE. OH, OH, THAT SUBWAY CROWD!
THE MILLING CROWD PROVIDES A TIMELY ESCAPE...
NOW I'VE LOST HIM IN THIS MOB. I MIGHT AS WELL CHANGE AGAIN AND BE ON MY WAY TO THE MISSION.
MEANWHILE AS MADELINE PROCEEDS ON HER WAY...
HEY! WHAT'S THIS? JUST WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR. A RED FLOWER!
THERE'S THAT FELLOW AGAIN... LOOKING IN REFUSE CANS! POOR GUY!
LATER THAT NIGHT, ON A BUSY STREET CORNER...
MY RED-HAIRED FRIEND AGAIN! A FLOWER IN HIS BUTTON-HOLE, AND BEGGING ON A STREET CORNER...
MISSION
NOW I'M ALL SET. I'VE GOT THE FLOWER AND ACCORDING TO MY FORTUNE MY LUCK SHOULD CHANGE!
3

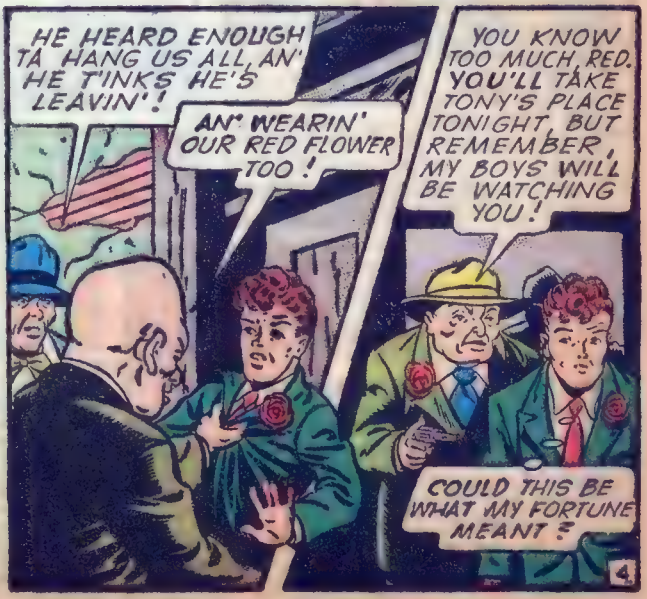
GO TO THE MISSION RIGHT DOWN THE STREET. YOU'LL GET A GOOD MEAL, AND YOU MAY EVEN GET A JOB.
THANKS, MISS, I'LL TRY IT!

SPLIT SECONDS LATER...
FERGET DA DAME! HERE'S WHAT YER WAITIN' FER, PAL!
HUH?
I WONDER WHAT THIS MEANS? "8 O'CLOCK AT 2341 8 TH ST. "I'LL GO THERE FIRST, AND TO THE MISSION LATER.

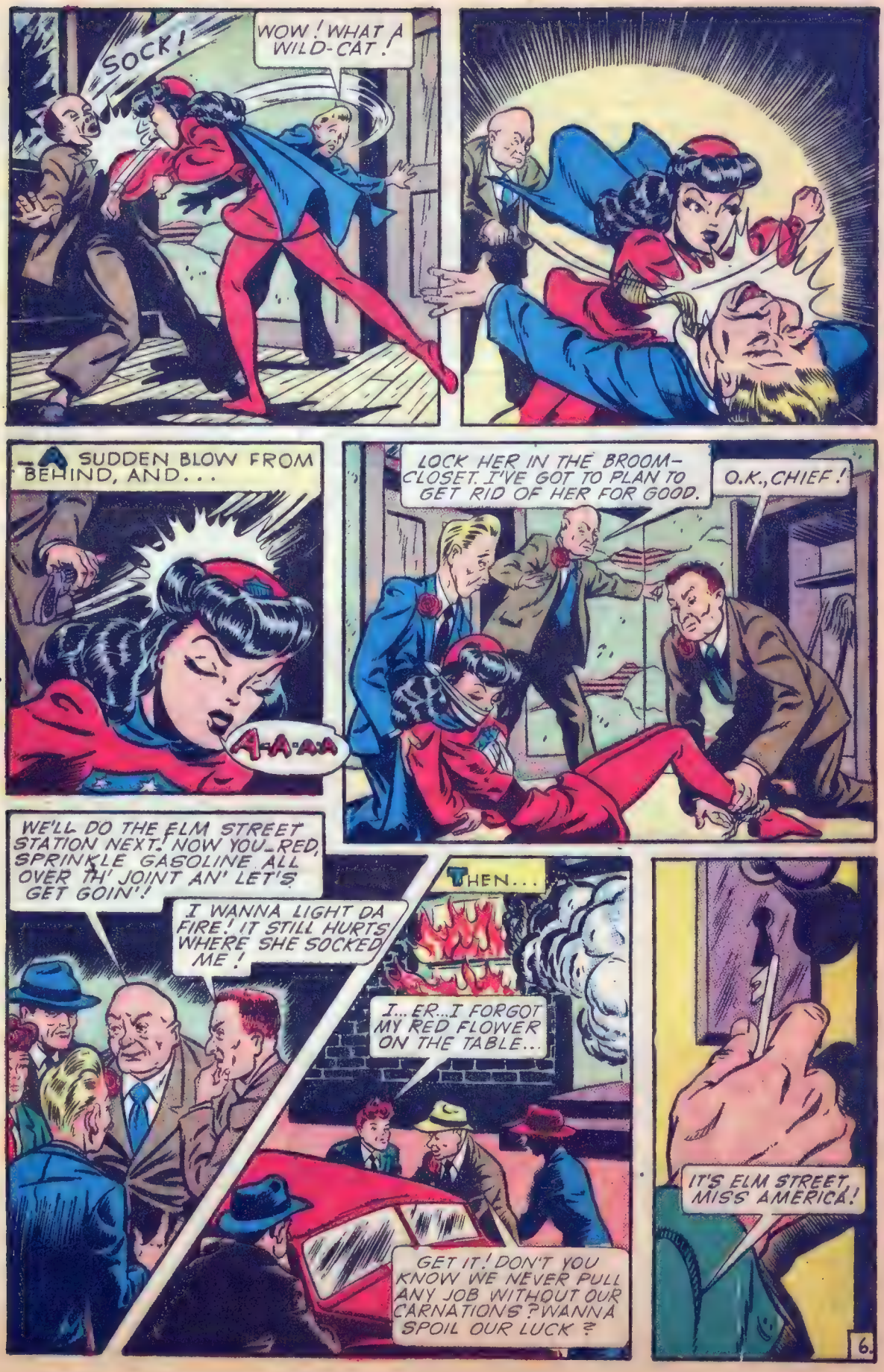
AT 8 O'CLOCK, RED WALKS INTO THE 8TH STREET ADDRESS, AND...
OKAY, GUYS, HERE'S THE SET-UP!


TONY, YOU'LL GO TO THE GAS STATION AT 5TH AN' HOYT ST. BUY A PACK OF CIGARETTES INSIDE. WHILE THE GUY IS GIVIN' YOU CHANGE, I'LL STICK UP THE OTHER ATTENDANT.


HEY! WHERE D'YA THINK YER GOIN'? SAY_HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE, ANYHOW?
I...ER...I MADE A MISTAKE. I'M LEAVING NOW.


HE HEARD ENOUGH TA HANG US ALL, AN' HE T'INKS HE'S LEAVIN'!
AN' WEARIN' OUR RED FLOWER TOO!
YOU KNOW TOO MUCH, RED. YOU'LL TAKE TONY'S PLACE TONIGHT, BUT REMEMBER, MY BOYS WILL BE WATCHING YOU!
COULD THIS BE WHAT MY FORTUNE MEANT?
4

AT NINE O'CLOCK THAT NIGHT...
C'MON, STICK 'EM UP! HAND OVER YER ROLL!
I WANT SOME FLOWERS ER...ER, I MEAN SOME CIGARETTES.
GARAGE
MADELINE STOPS IN AT THAT MOMENT...
YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT, MISS, I'VE JUST BEEN HELD UP! GOTTA CALL THE POLICE!
HELD UP! JUST A MINUTE - COULD IT HAVE BEEN "CARNATION" JOE'S BUNCH?
COME TO THINK OF IT, THEY ALL WERE WEARING RED FLOWERS!
MOMENTS LATER, MADELINE JOYCE AGAIN BECOMES MISS AMERICA
SOUNDS LIKE MY RED-HEADED PAN-HANDLER! HE MUST HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GIVE A CLUE. I DOUBT IF HE'S ONE OF JOE'S BUNCH.
A SEARCH THROUGH DESERTED CITY STREETS AND THEN...
THE FELLOW WHO TALKED TO ME WAS RED-HEADED, AN' HE MUMBLED SOMETHING ABOUT FLOWERS FIRST!
SOMETHING RED THROWN OUT OF THAT CAR! COULD IT BE..?
A RED CARNATION!! THAT RED-HEAD IS OKAY. THIS MUST BE THEIR HIDE-OUT!
AND MOMENTS LATER...
SIX HUNDRED AN' SEVENTY-SIX, SIX HUN... WHAT'S THAT?
RIGHT, SONNY BOY! I KNOW I WASN'T INVITED, BUT...
MISS AMERICA!


SOCK!
WOW! WHAT A WILD-CAT!
A SUDDEN BLOW FROM BEHIND, AND...
A-A-AA
LOCK HER IN THE BROOM-CLOSET. I'VE GOT TO PLAN TO GET RID OF HER FOR GOOD.
O.K., CHIEF!
WE'LL DO THE ELM STREET STATION NEXT. NOW YOU-RED, SPRINKLE GASOLINE ALL OVER TH' JOINT AN' LET'S GET GOIN'!
I WANNA LIGHT DA FIRE! IT STILL HURTS WHERE SHE SOCKED ME!
THEN...
I... ER... I FORGOT MY RED FLOWER ON THE TABLE...
GET IT! DON'T YOU KNOW WE NEVER PULL ANY JOB WITHOUT OUR CARNATIONS? WANNA SPOIL OUR LUCK?
IT'S ELM STREET, MISS AMERICA!
6

IF IT WEREN'T FOR MY RED-HEADED FRIEND, THOSE LUGS WOULD HAVE BURNED ME ALIVE! SO IT'S ELM STREET, IS IT? WELL, HERE I COME!
SOON...
GET 'EM UP! WE'LL RELIEVE YA OF YER ROLL!
GAS
YOW-IT'S MISS AMERICA AGAIN!
WELL, "CARNATION" JOE, YOUR TALISMAN DIDN'T DO MUCH GOOD AFTER ALL, DID IT?
I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS LONG AGO!
UGH!
AFTER THE POLICE HAVE BEEN CALLED...
YOU SURE PUT THE SKIDS ON JOE AND HIS GANG, MISS AMERICA!!
PART OF THE CREDIT GOES TO THIS MAN WHO WAS AN UNWILLING ACCOMPLICE!
IT ALL STARTED WITH THAT PARROT AND THE FORTUNE!
YES, I KNOW, RED. YOU WERE JUST A VICTIM OF CIRCUMSTANCES.
WEEKS LATER, ON A CITY STREET...
GEE, IT WAS SWELL OF YOU TO GET ME OFF ON PROBATION, MISS AMERICA! AND THROUGH THE MISSION I GOT THIS JOB!
JUST STICK TO IT, RED. YOU'LL MAKE GOOD!
STILL LATER, AS FORTUNE CONTINUES TO SMILE...
HOW ABOUT A NICE RED CARNATION, MISTER?
GOSH, NO! ANYTHING BUT THAT!
THE END

ROAD OF DESTINY

A SOLITARY figure walked slowly down the hill leading away from the farm-house. As he kicked small stones aside, Jimmy Madison was thinking of the ordeal he had been through the past few weeks.

He had been accused of deliberately holding his horse back, so that it would not win the Sweepstakes. Anyone who really knew the kid would not have believed such an accusation. But what chance did Jimmy have against the word of Mr. Tom Gardner, well-known sportsman? The latter's horse, Golden Girl, with Jimmy riding, had been in the lead all the way. It seemed like a cinch winner to the crowd, roaring its approval at the race-track. But something had happened on that last lap.

Jimmy could feel Golden Girl weakening on the home stretch. Two other horses passed him by, and Golden Girl barely came in third. A howl of protest came up from the stands as Jimmy eased Golden Girl toward the stables. The crowd felt gypped.

Mr. Gardner had rushed over to Jimmy and shouted:

"I saw you pull her back, Madison . . . you're crooked! The racing commission will hear about this . . . you're through!"

Jimmy was bewildered and said nothing. Later, before the commission, he pleaded innocent to the charge of throwing away his chance to win.

"What made Golden Girl slow up all of a sudden?" he was asked.

"I don't know!" Jimmy replied carefully. "She was going along fine, and then, for no reason at all, she slackened her pace . . . she got sick or something!"

One member of the commission suggested an examination of the horse, to determine if she *had* become ill for some conceivable reason. But Tom Gardner had refused to allow this, insisting that his horse was in perfect condition, and he would vouch for it personally. His word was good enough for the commission.

Young Madison was then barred from racing as a dishonest jockey.

So now, as Jimmy walked along the country road near his father's farm, he tried to collect his muddled thoughts of these past few terrible weeks. There was one man who believed in Jimmy, and that was his dad. Old man Madison had trained many great winners in his day, and had brought his boy up to love and respect the sport of horse-racing. He didn't have to tell Jimmy that he *knew* he was innocent, and Jimmy knew his father had complete faith in him.

"Just stay around the farm until this blows over, son. Someday, someone will find out the truth about Gardner and his shady deals, and then people will think differently about you."

Jimmy was taking this walk in his favorite woods. He followed the old familiar dirt road which wound serpentine through Bates Woods.

He passed the old shack where some hermit used to live and continued on to the brook. Here he stopped and sat down on a rock near the edge of the stream. He withdrew his shoes and socks and let his feet dangle in the cool water as he had done so many times when he was a boy. As he sat there, his troubled mind became more rested and he began to feel better.

But later, as young Jimmy Madison replaced his socks and shoes and began to retrace his steps toward home, something happened which since that day made Jimmy consider this walk along this particular road as predestined by fate. For he suddenly became aware of two familiar voices not too far away. It was as he approached the old shack which he thought had long been abandoned, that he recognized the voices coming from within. One was that of Tom Gardner; the other voice was clearly that of Gardner's crooked trainer, Jeff Owens!

The first question which entered Jimmy's mind was: What were these two men doing in this vicinity, so far from Gardner's training farm? But the answer came soon as the youth listened outside the broken window.

"You've done a good job, Owens," Gardner was saying. "You fixed Golden Girl up just enough to make her sick at the right moment . . . she lost the race, and I cleaned up a fortune on the second favorite."

Owens laughed. "Yeah, and the Madison kid takes the rap for the whole deal! It worked out perfectly! And now you can pay me off like you promised, Gardner."

There were a few moments of silence as money was obviously being exchanged. Apparently Owens had counted the bills just given to him, for he began to protest at once.

"But you promised me ten grand! There's only five thousand here!"

There was a snarl in Gardner's voice which Jimmy knew so well, as the sportsman replied:

"You'll take five thousand and like it! You gotta remember that I'm taking a big loss on selling Golden Girl to Madison's old man. Of course, the nag is no good for racing anymore, but what Madison doesn't know won't hurt him!"

So that's why Gardner and Owens were near his father's farm, Jimmy realized! Old man Madison had bought Golden Girl . . . but *why?*

Jimmy had heard enough. He made his way back along the deserted road to the farm-house and entered. His father greeted him with a smile.

"Jimmy, I have great news for you! I've just . . ."

"Yes, I know, Dad," the boy interrupted him. "You've just bought Golden Girl."

Then Jimmy related the conversation he had just overheard.

"But why did you do it, Dad? Chances are Golden Girl isn't fit to race again. Anyway, how come Gardner sold the horse to *you?*"

Old man Madison winked at his son. "I went to see Gardner the other day without telling you. He was surprised to see me. But I pretended I hadn't seen you since the day of the race . . . I made Gardner think I *believed* you were a crooked jockey, and I was through with you. Then we got to talking about Golden Girl, and finally I offered to buy her. Gardner jumped at the chance; thought he was putting something over on me! But I *know* Golden Girl, and she *will* race again when I get through with her . . . and *you're* gonna ride her!"

Jimmy laughed, overjoyed at the idea. But suddenly he frowned.

"You forget, Dad . . . the racing commission has barred me!"

"Yes, I know, Jimmy. But one day a little break will come along, and you'll be cleared. They'll reinstate you, and then . . ."

Jimmy let out a whoop. He had just thought of something.

"Dad, I'm glad I took that walk down the old road today, because I learned something. Gardner has double-crossed Owens . . . paid him only *half* of what he promised him for doping Golden Girl so she'd lose the race. Now, if we can get Owens alone, and have a talk with him . . ."

The next day, the two Madisons, father and son, had their talk with Owens. Jimmy was right when he figured that Owens was burned up over the raw deal Gardner had pulled on him. Working on this resentment, Jimmy had the trainer where he wanted him. A quick visit to the racing commission followed; then a hurried meeting of the entire commission; then a glaring headline on every sports page in the country:

"Jockey Jimmy Madison reinstated! Sportsman held on serious charge! Ex-trainer tells all!"

. . . But our story doesn't end there! With old man Madison training Golden Girl and giving her loving care, he got her back into tip-top shape in time for the Brentwood Handicap.

It was a close race until the last length of the course. Then Golden Girl seemed to sprout wings as she shot forward into the lead and flew home to the finish-line, with very little encouraging from young Jimmy Madison. He knew that Golden Girl felt the same way he did . . . they had been robbed out of a victory the last time, but now the roaring crowd would know they had watched a pair of champions come up from behind and win out in the end!

THE END

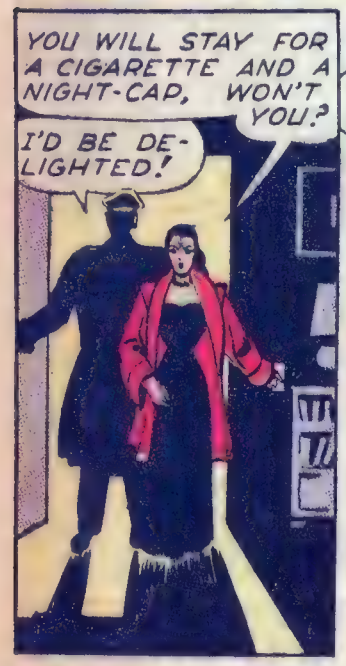
THE PATRIOT
WITH THE AXIS MONSTERS TRAMPLED IN THE DUST OF IGNOBLE DEFEAT, THE DELEGATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS GATHER TO FURTHER CEMENT THE BONDS OF MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING, LITTLE KNOWING THAT THERE ARE STILL IN OUR MIDST THOSE WHO WOULD DELIVER MANKIND INTO SLAVERY TO SATISFY THEIR GREED FOR WEALTH AND POWER! AGAINST THE EVIL CUNNING OF SUCH VILLAINY, THE PATRIOT MATCHES HIS SMASHING FISTS AND DARING COURAGE IN THE CASE OF ---
"The AMBASSADOR of DEATH!"

THERE'S A RECEPTION BEING GIVEN TONIGHT IN THE WHITE HOUSE FOR NEWLY ARRIVED AMBASSADORS FROM SOUTH AMERICA. GET OUT THERE AND BRING BACK A STORY!
HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME? NEXT THING I KNOW YOU'LL HAVE ME DOING THE LOVELORN COLUMN!

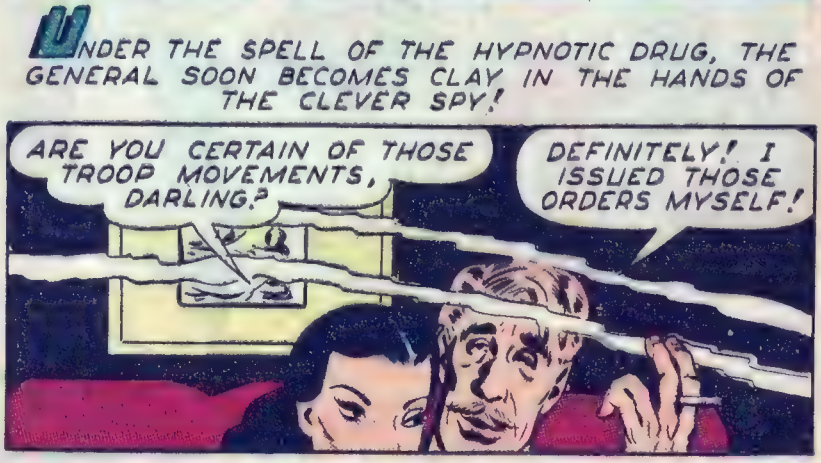
S' HELP ME, IF YOU DON'T QUIT HEAVING PAPER PLANES AROUND THIS OFFICE, I'LL HAVE YOU WRITING OBITS!
NOW, CHIEF, DON'T LOSE YOUR TEMPER! REMEMBER YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE! TOODLE-OO!

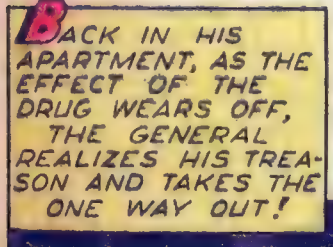
LATER...
HMM...WONDER WHO THE CLASSY GIRL IS?

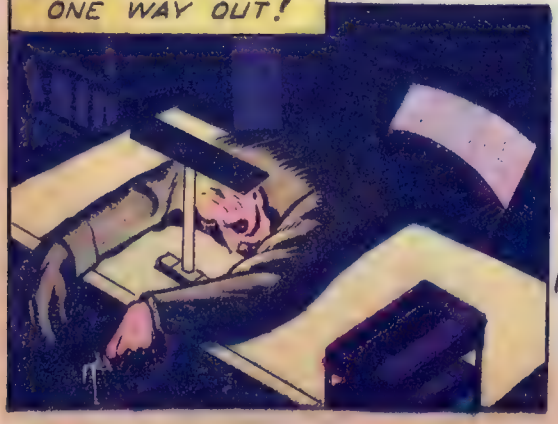
I'VE A SPLITTING HEADACHE. WOULD YOU BE GOOD ENOUGH TO SEE ME HOME?
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY. I'LL GET YOUR WRAPS AT ONCE!


YOU WILL STAY FOR A CIGARETTE AND A NIGHT-CAP, WON'T YOU?
I'D BE DELIGHTED!

UNWITTINGLY, THE GENERAL ACCEPTS A DRUGGED CIGARETTE....
YOUR HEADACHE SEEMS RELIEVED!
I HOPE YOU WON'T THINK I'M AWFUL, BUT I MUST CONFESS I WANTED TO BE ALONE WITH YOU!
IT WON'T BE LONG NOW BEFORE I GET THE INFORMATION I WANT FROM THE OLD FOOL!


UNDER THE SPELL OF THE HYPNOTIC DRUG, THE GENERAL SOON BECOMES CLAY IN THE HANDS OF THE CLEVER SPY!
ARE YOU CERTAIN OF THOSE TROOP MOVEMENTS, DARLING?
DEFINITELY! I ISSUED THOSE ORDERS MYSELF!


BACK IN HIS APARTMENT, AS THE EFFECT OF THE DRUG WEARS OFF, THE GENERAL REALIZES HIS TREASON AND TAKES THE ONE WAY OUT!



WUXTRA! WUXTRA! GOVERNMENT SCANDAL! READ ALL ABOUT IT!
TIMES
GENERAL COMMITS SUICIDE! NOTE ADMITS TREASON!

SOMETIME LATER, AT THE HOME OF THE NEWLY-ARRIVED BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR....
I AM PLANNING TO GIVE A COCKTAIL PARTY NEXT SATURDAY EVENING. I WILL GIVE YOU THE INVITATION LIST. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THE DETAILS.
VERY GOOD, SIR!
SO FAR THE SET-UP IS PERFECT!
MAIL
LATER...
THERE! PERFECT! NOW TO RIG UP THE SHORT-WAVE SENDING APPARATUS AND PREPARATIONS ARE COMPLETE!
THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! YOU'LL HANG FOR THIS!
I SENT YOU A COPY OF THE INVITATION LIST. FOLLOW YOUR INSTRUCTIONS!
DON'T WORRY! I'LL BE THERE WITH BELLS ON!
TELEPHONE
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?
YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH, FOOL! A SIMPLE SWITCH IN IDENTITY IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE!
LATER...
MY HEAD IS SPLITTING! IT'S SO NICE OF YOU TO SEE ME HOME.
THE PLEASURE IS ALL MINE! I HATE THESE STUFFY DIPLOMATIC AFFAIRS!
HM! SAME GAL--- SAME HEADACHE! LOOKS MIGHTY FISHY. THINK I'LL FOLLOW THEM!
THAT EVENING....
THIS CLAMBAKE IS HARDER TO CRASH THAN A BANK!
BY JOVE! THAT'S THE SAME GIRL THAT WAS WITH THE GENERAL THE NIGHT HE COMMITTED SUICIDE!
3

TRAILING THE GIRL-SPY AND OFFICER TO HER SWANKY MID-TOWN APARTMENT, JEFF PATIENTLY AWAITS EVENTS!
UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, HER OFFICER FRIEND WILL SOON EMERGE.... DRUGGED!
SOON....
TAXI!
JUST AS I THOUGHT! THIS IS A JOB FOR THE PATRIOT!
THIS NOTE WILL GIVE THE F.B.I. ALL THE INFORMATION THEY NEED, AS WELL AS EXPLAIN MY DISHONORABLE ACT. MAY I BE FORGIVEN FOR MY TREASON. THERE REMAINS FOR ME BUT ONE THING...
A FEW MOMENTS LATER, THE OFFICER ARRIVES AT HIS QUARTERS...
MY MIND SEEMS BLANK, AND YET...
HOLD IT, GENERAL! LET'S TALK THIS OVER!
JUST AS I THOUGHT! YOU WERE DRUGGED! THAT EXPLAINS HOW VITAL INFORMATION HAS BEEN LEAKING OUT!
YES, AND ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED IS IN MY NOTE ON MY DESK! GOOD LUCK, PATRIOT!
PATRIOT DASHES BACK TO THE GIRL-SPY'S APARTMENT AT BREAKNECK SPEED!
HERE GOES! I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE TO PREVENT THEM FROM USING THE INFORMATION!

AT THE GIRL OPERATIVE'S APARTMENT, THE TWO ENEMY AGENTS CELEBRATE THE SUCCESS OF THEIR INFAMOUS PLOT...
YOUR DISGUISE IS PERFECT, FELIX!
BEFORE I AM THROUGH, I'LL IMPERSONATE THEM ALL AND HAVE THEM AT EACH OTHER'S THROAT... AND POOF WILL GO THEIR GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY!
SO THAT'S YOUR PLAN, IS IT? TOO BAD, THIS IS ONE PLAN THE PATRIOT IS GOING TO BUST RIGHT IN YOUR FACE!
LIKE THIS!
THIS ANDIRON WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU, WISE GUY!
MOMENTS LATER....
COME ON! NEVER MIND HIM! THAT HAY-MAKER'LL HOLD HIM FOR A WHILE!
IN CASE IT DOESN'T, THIS WILL COME IN HANDY!
GOT TO GET MOVING AND FAST TOO! MUST KEEP THAT INFORMATION FROM REACHING THE ENEMY!
5

MEANWHILE...
I'M GOING TO GIVE THE PATRIOT'S SCENT TO THE DOGS!
BEWARE OF DOGS
KILL! KILL! KILL!
I'LL SEND THAT INFORMATION AT ONCE! THEN I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU, AMBASSADOR!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!
YOU FIEND! YOU MAY KILL ME... BUT MY FINAL ACT WILL BE TO SMASH THAT WIRELESS TRANSMITTER!
WHA...?
STOP HIM!
TRY TO STOP ME FROM SENDING MY INFORMATION, WOULD YOU?
WHILE AT THAT VERY MOMENT...
NOW TO SETTLE THE SCORE... WHAT TH...?
OUT OF MY WAY, YOU BLOODTHIRSTY HOUNDS! I'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
6

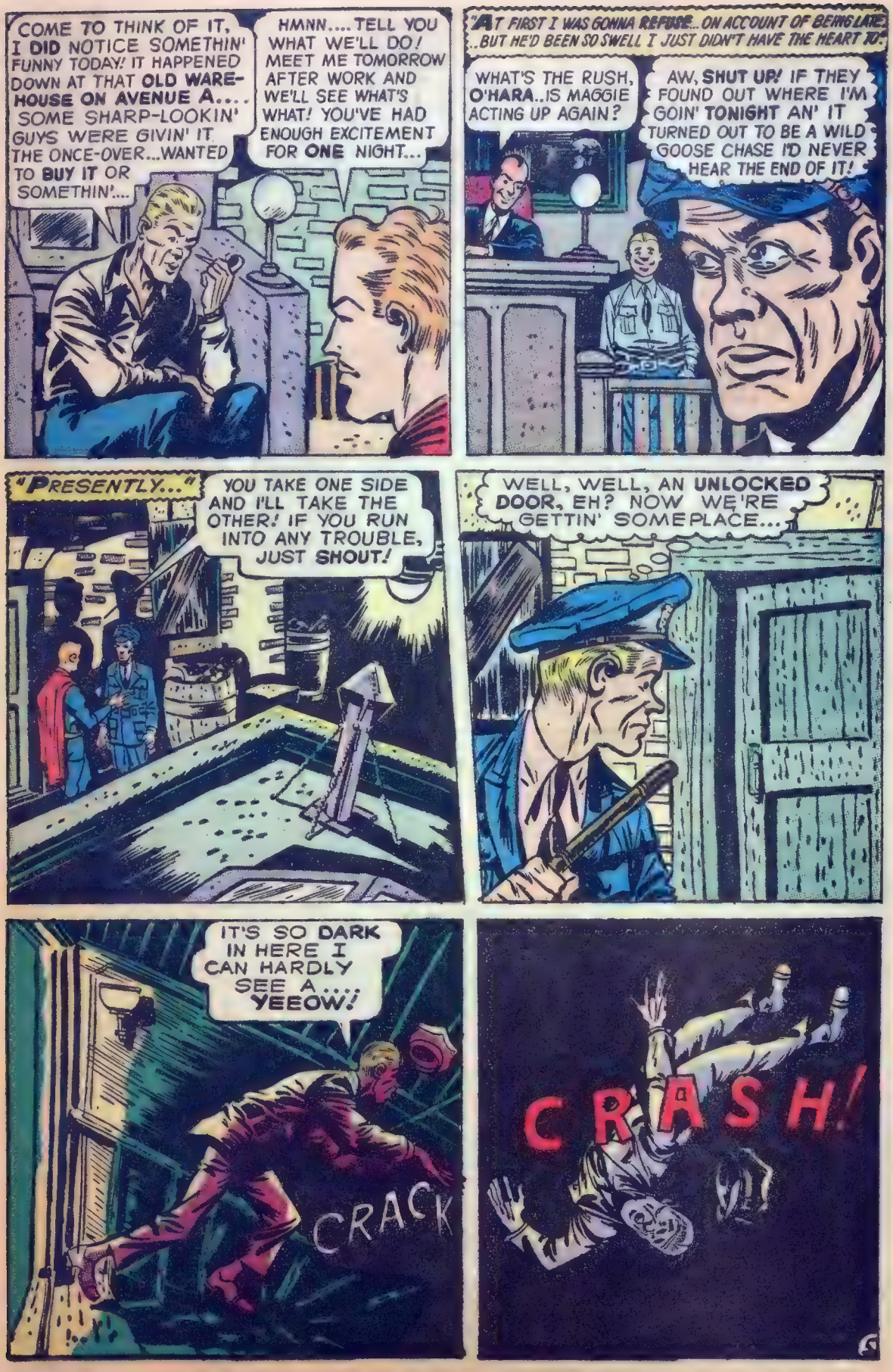
QUICKLY DISPOSING OF THE HORDE OF MAD DOGS, THE PATRIOT SMASHES HIS WAY INTO THE MANSION AND...
BIFF! BANG!
GIVE IT TO HIM!
THE PATRIOT!
LOOKS LIKE I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME!
THIS TIME I'LL FINISH YOU!
VIVA!
I'LL TEAR YOU LIMB FROM LIMB WITH MY BARE HANDS, YOU MEDDLING FOOL!
REAL NASTY, AREN'T YOU?
A PERFECT STRIKE!
WHILE THE RELEASED AMBASSADOR STANDS GUARD, THE PATRIOT MAKES A BRIEF CALL...
HELLO, F.B.I.? SEND A COUPLE OF YOUR MEN OVER TO THE HOME OF THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR TO PICK UP A COUPLE OF RATS. THIS IS THE PATRIOT!
FAREWELL, AMIGO! UNTIL THE F.B.I. AGENTS ARRIVE, I LEAVE YOU IN CHARGE. GUARD THEM CAREFULLY!
THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE HAS GOOD SUPPORTERS AND WILL PREVAIL! VIVA, PATRIOT!
THE END

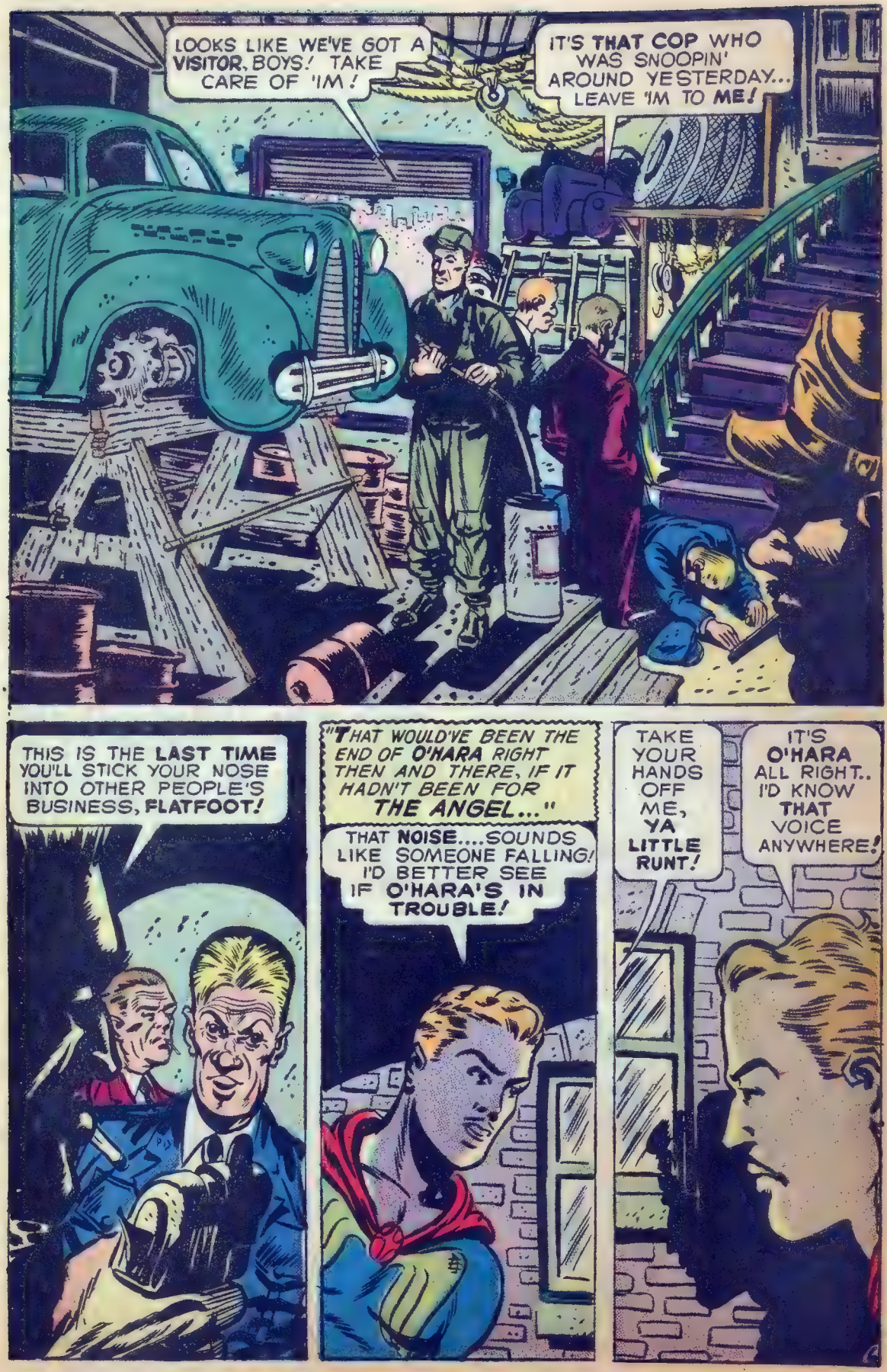
IF EVER A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND, IT'S **PATROLMAN O'HARA!** A GANG OF CRAFTY CAR THIEVES HAS HIM RUNNING IN CIRCLES, LOOKING FOR THEIR HIDEOUT! AND WHEN, IN DESPERATION, HE STARTS PROWLING AROUND AFTER HOURS IN SEARCH OF CLUES, HIS WIFE GIVES HIM THE DICKENS FOR STAYING AWAY FROM HOME! ...HERE'S A SITUATION MADE-TO-ORDER FOR THE **ANGEL**--AND THE NEMESIS OF CRIME AND CRIMINALS CAN'T RESIST IT! **SO**, PULL UP YOUR CHAIRS, FOLKS, AND GET A RINGSIDE SEAT AT A TOPSY-TURVY LITTLE DRAMA TITLED..."**THE SAGA OF SUNSHINE O'HARA**"

WE COULD TELL YOU HOW IT ALL BEGAN BUT SUNSHINE--THAT'S O'HARA's NICKNAME-IS KIND OF TOUCHY, SO WE'LL LET HIM DO THE TALKING!
IT STARTED ONE DAY AT THE STATION.... SERGEANT MURPHY HAD JUST COME FROM SEEIN' THE POLICE COMMISSIONER...
SOMETHIN'S GOTTA BE DONE! CARS ARE DISAPPEARIN' RIGHT AN' LEFT AN' NOBODY KNOWS WHERE THEY'RE GETTING TO! AND YOU, O'HARA, YOUR BEAT'S THE WORST OF ALL!
BUT, SERGEANT...
NO BUTS, O'HARA! YOU'D BETTER FIND THE CROOKS WHO ARE DOIN' IT OR IT'S BACK TO POUNDING THE STICKS FOR YOU!
"I MUST'VE DAWDLED ON THE WAY HOME, BECAUSE MAGGIE - THAT'S MY WIFE - HAD SUPPER ALL WAITING FOR ME..."
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU SHOWED UP - THE STEW'S ALMOST COLD! I DON'T KNOW WHAT KEEPS YOU SO LONG..
YES, MAGGIE!
I'M SORRY, MAGGIE! MURPHY AND I WERE TALKING!
SORRY, INDEED! YOU TELL THAT SERGEANT MURPHY, I'LL GIVE 'IM A PIECE OF MY MIND IF HE KEEPS YOU LATE AGAIN!
"ALL NEXT DAY I KEPT ME EYES OPEN, LOOKING FOR SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS... WHEN SUDDENLY I SPOTTED SOME SHARP-LOOKING GUYS GETTIN' OUT OF A BLACK SEDAN AT AN OLD, UNUSED WAREHOUSE!"
STAND WATCH HERE, LEFTY, IN CASE ANY-ONE STARTS SNOOPIN' AROUND!
OKAY!

THOSE GUYS WHO WENT INSIDE—ARE THEY FRIENDS OF YOURS?
YEAH, SURE, OFFICER! THEY'RE LOOKIN' THE PLACE OVER—THEY'RE THINKING OF BUYING IT! SWELL LOCATION, YA KNOW...
SWELL LOCATION FOR WHAT?
ER...FOR STORING THINGS! THE BOYS ARE IN THE DECORATIN' BUSINESS. THEY GOTTA HAVE SOME PLACE TO KEEP ALL THEIR STUFF!
THEY DIDN'T LOOK LIKE DECORATORS TO ME BUT I LET IT PASS... LATER ON I WISHED I HADN'T, BECAUSE ON MY WAY HOME!!
SOME CROOKS TRYIN' TO TAKE IT ON THE LAM, EH? WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.... STEADY, O'HARA, THIS IS NO TIME TO GET NERVOUS!
SCREECH
"I AIMED FOR THEIR TIRES AND, MISTER, I DIDN'T MISS!"
WHEN MURPHY HEARS ABOUT THIS HE'LL SING A DIFFERENT TUNE!
CRASH
"I THOUGHT I'D BE FIRST ON THE SCENE BUT I WASN'T... 'THE ANGEL' BEAT ME TO IT!"
GREAT DAY IN THE MORNIN'... THE ANGEL! HEY, LAY OFF—THIS IS MY JOB!
SORRY, OFFICER, BUT THIS IS MY JOB, TOO! I'VE BEEN AFTER THESE LUGS FOR WEEKS!
VOTE FOR

"THE CROOKS WERE SHAKEN UP ALL RIGHT, BUT NOT AS MUCH AS I THOUGHT, BECAUSE JUST THEN.."
YOU HEARD WHAT THE COP SAID, WISEGUY---LAY OFF!
WHAAAA...?
NO, YOU DON'T...
ULP!
OOF-F!
"LATER"
HUH..THE ANGEL! WHAT HAPPENED? THAT WAS A 'HOT' CAR THOSE MUGS WERE DRIVIN'.. HOW COME THEY GOT AWAY?
WE GOT OUR SIGNALS MIXED, THAT'S ALL! THEY GOT AWAY NOW BUT THEY WON'T THE NEXT TIME, EH, OFFICER?
YEAH, I GUESS SO!
"RIGHT THEN AND THERE I DECIDED THIS ANGEL GUY WAS OKAY---HE COULD'VE MADE A SCENE, BUT HE DIDN'T!"
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, FELLER... FORGET IT! WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES!
I'M NOT JUST THINKIN' ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED, ANGEL! IT'S ME WIFE, MAGGIE... SHE'LL BE MADDER THAN A NEST FULL OF HORNETS 'CAUSE I'M LATE FOR SUPPER! SHE WARNED ME ABOUT IT ONLY YESTERDAY...
"...AND SURE ENOUGH!"
O'HARA, THIS IS THE LAST STRAW! FROM NOW ON YOU CAN GET YOUR SUPPER YOURSELF! AND ANOTHER THING...
POOR GUY...HE CAN'T GET A WORD IN EDGE-WISE! O'HARA'LL PROB-ABLY COME OUT FOR A SMOKE AFTER SUPPER! I'LL HANG AROUND AND SEE IF HE'S GOT ANY IDEAS AS TO WHERE THOSE CROOKS MIGHT'VE GOT TO!


COME TO THINK OF IT, I DID NOTICE SOMETHIN' FUNNY TODAY! IT HAPPENED DOWN AT THAT OLD WARE-HOUSE ON AVENUE A.... SOME SHARP-LOOKIN' GUYS WERE GIVIN' IT THE ONCE-OVER...WANTED TO BUY IT OR SOMETHIN'....
HMNN.... TELL YOU WHAT WE'LL DO! MEET ME TOMORROW AFTER WORK AND WE'LL SEE WHAT'S WHAT! YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH EXCITEMENT FOR ONE NIGHT...
"AT FIRST I WAS GONNA REFUSE... ON ACCOUNT OF BEING LATE ...BUT HE'D BEEN SO SWELL I JUST DIDN'T HAVE THE HEART TO".
WHAT'S THE RUSH, O'HARA..IS MAGGIE ACTING UP AGAIN?
AW, SHUT UP! IF THEY FOUND OUT WHERE I'M GOIN' TONIGHT AN' IT TURNED OUT TO BE A WILD GOOSE CHASE I'D NEVER HEAR THE END OF IT!
"PRESENTLY..."
YOU TAKE ONE SIDE AND I'LL TAKE THE OTHER! IF YOU RUN INTO ANY TROUBLE, JUST SHOUT!
WELL, WELL, AN UNLOCKED DOOR, EH? NOW WE'RE GETTIN' SOMEPLACE...
IT'S SO DARK IN HERE I CAN HARDLY SEE A.... YEEOW!
CRACK
CRASH!


LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT A VISITOR, BOYS! TAKE CARE OF 'IM!
IT'S THAT COP WHO WAS SNOOPIN' AROUND YESTERDAY... LEAVE 'IM TO ME!
THIS IS THE LAST TIME YOU'LL STICK YOUR NOSE INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS, FLATFOOT!
"THAT WOULD'VE BEEN THE END OF O'HARA RIGHT THEN AND THERE, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THE ANGEL..."
THAT NOISE....SOUNDS LIKE SOMEONE FALLING! I'D BETTER SEE IF O'HARA'S IN TROUBLE!
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME, YA LITTLE RUNT!
IT'S O'HARA ALL RIGHT.. I'D KNOW THAT VOICE ANYWHERE!

THE ANGEL! I MUST BE SEEIN' THINGS!
YOU'RE NOT NOW, BUT YOU SOON WILL BE!
THAT'LL TEACH YA TO GET NASTY WITH THE LAW!
UGH!
"IT DIDN'T TAKE ME'N THE ANGEL LONG TO CLEAN UP THE REST OF THE GANG..."
THAT'S THAT! NOW WE KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE STOLEN CARS--THEY BROUGHT 'EM IN HERE, AND PAINTED 'EM OVER AND SOLD 'EM AGAIN! IT WAS A PRETTY SLICK RACKET WHILE IT LASTED, BUT THANKS TO YOU IT DIDN'T LAST LONG!
YOU'D BETTER TELL ME WIFE, MAGGIE, THAT-- SHE'LL NEED A BIT OF CONVINCING!
"WHEN WE GOT HOME..."
WELL, IF YOU SAY IT'S ALL RIGHT, MISTER ANGEL, THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME! YOU WOULDN'T BE WANTIN' A SPOT OF STEW, WOULD YOU? I CAN HEAT IT IN A MINUTE!
WHY, I DON'T MIND IF I DO!
I DON'T GET IT! FOR TWENTY YEARS IT'S BEEN YAP-YAP-YAP ALL THE TIME! IN WALKS THE ANGEL AN' SHE'S AS SWEET AS CAN BE--THERE'S JUST NO FIGURIN' WOMEN OUT AT ALL!
THE END

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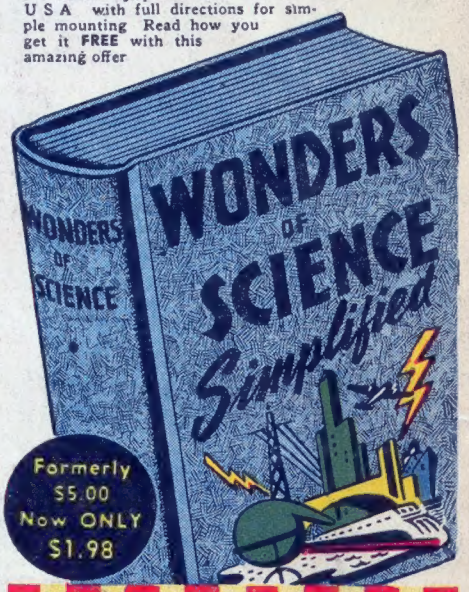

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